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U.S. Planning To Violate SALT II

LD161708 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS -- There is more and more talk in Washington about the United States' withdrawal from the SALT-2 treaty, which is in preparation, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, said at a press conference today, responding to questions put by journalists.

The Soviet side proceeds from the assumption that abiding on a mutual basis by the provisions of the treaty, which blocks the quantitative and qualitative perfection of the more powerful armaments, would be of no small importance of maintaining the strategic balance in the future as well and to ensuring auspicious conditions for working out new accords on limiting and reducing nuclear armaments.

The USSR's position as regards the SALT-2 treaty will, certainly, depend on how the matter will stand with respect to preventing the arms race in outer space, and observing by the United States of the ABM Treaty.

The United States' further intentions with regard to this treaty are to be checked when another U.S. submarine of the "Ohio" type will begin sea trials, which is reported to take place late in May, the deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR said.

Thus, the United States would, if corresponding measures are not taken, exceed the established limit of 1,200 units on intercontinental ballistic missiles and submarine-launched ballistic missiles with multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles. For the United States to comply with this limit, it should dismantle the corresponding number of the already existing arms (either two "Poseidon" submarines or the corresponding number of "Minuteman-2" intercontinental ballistic missiles).

The intentions of the U.S. side will apparently be checked for the second time by the end of the year when as a result of the equipment of bombers with long-range cruise missiles the United States will approach the treaty ceiling of 1,320 units for MIRVed ballistic missiles and heavy bombers with cruise missiles.

There is now talk in Washington to the effect that if in the first case the United States will, possibly, abide by the limit, in the second -- it will not do it. Simultaneously, it is planned to launch a propaganda campaign charging the USSR with its alleged "non-compliance" with SALT-2. The purpose is to find a pretext to lift from the United States the treaty restrictions which were agreed upon by the sides.

So, the point at issue is the intention to violate the treaty most flagrantly, to withdraw from it through relieving itself of one or another of its provisions as soon as they become a hindrance to new U.S. military programmes. Should this happen, the entire responsibility for the consequences would rest squarely with the United States. The USSR would make corresponding conclusions for itself and take measures to protect its security and to prevent the balance established by the treaty from being tipped.

Soviet Stand on Talks

LD161629 Moscow TASS in English 1529 GMT 16 May 86

["Geneva Talks: Facts and Fiction" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS -- The U.S. Administration has lately begun anew to spread rumours about the Soviet position at the talks on nuclear and space weapons, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, a deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, said at a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists here today. In this way they want to create the impression, he continued, that it is not the USA but someone else that is holding back progress at the Geneva talks. But this is not so. Actually, during the previous four rounds the American side did not offer anything new as compared with what it said from the outset and what was absolutely unacceptable. This holds true of the U.S. positions on outer space, on strategic arms and on medium-range nuclear weapons.

The claims of the American side that the USA introduced something fresh in the talks on November 1, 1985, and on February 24, 1986, are at odds with reality. Equally far-fetched are the statements of the U.S. Administration that the Soviet Union has not responded to the above American proposals. The deputy foreign minister pointed out that way back during talks with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz in Moscow in early November 1985, the Soviet side had given an official view of the American proposals and demonstrated in detail why they were unacceptable. Then, the Soviet side produced at the Geneva talks themselves a detailed characterization of the U.S. proposals.

It was pointed out, inter alia, that the U.S. proposal of November 1 circumvented the main question, that of averting the arms race in space. By substituting the value concept of "stabilizing the relationship between offensive and defensive weapons" for the problem of averting the arms race in outer space, the USA actually would like to give legitimacy to the arms race both in space and on earth.

As for the arguments of the American side on strategic offensive weapons, at a closer look they mean a buildup of these armaments, though they seem to be speaking about halving them. Instead of the aggregate level of 6,000 nuclear warheads on strategic delivery vehicles mentioned by the American side as a ceiling for our countries, the United States, if its proposal were accepted, would have increased the number of its nuclear warheads to more than 15,000.

Moreover, long range sea-launched cruise missiles (about 4,000 units) would not be restricted at all. The American proposals, if they were accepted, would wreck the existing structure of the Soviet strategic forces while that of the U.S. strategic forces would be preserved.

As for an "intermediate agreement" on medium-range missiles under the proposals, tabled by the American side on November 1, 1985, the United States would secure an opportunity to increase drastically, more than two-fold, the number of nuclear warheads on its medium-range missiles in Europe while the Soviet missiles would have to be reduced.

Washington's proposals by the closure of the fourth round of the talks did not contain anything constructive either and were actually equivalent to a repetition of the unacceptable positions presented by the U.S. delegation earlier. The American side responded to the Soviet radical proposal on the complete elimination of the Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe with its infamous "zero option".

The American side, the Soviet deputy foreign minister states, has been doing whatever it can to quench the impetus given to the talks on nuclear and space weapons by the Soviet-American Geneva summit. Yet the U.S. Administration still has a chance to back its words with deeds.

Now that the USSR has announced the third extension of its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions and offered the U.S. leadership, in the words of Mikhail Gorbachev, "to demonstrate by action its care for human life and health", the U.S. Government should use the chance offered it and joint the historical action of the Soviet Union.

If Washington really wanted to contribute to the Soviet efforts to break the deadlock at the talks on nuclear and space weapons, it could do so by reverting to a business-like and constructive discussion of all questions at the recently opened fifth round of those talks.

We now have a fundamentally new situation, which can break the stalemate at the Geneva talks if the American side is prepared to seek mutually acceptable compromises.

Lomeyko on Chernobyl, Western 'Psychosis'

LD161926 Moscow TASS in English 1846 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS - Colonel General Nikolay Chervov, a department chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, who took part in today's press conference, said in reply to a question about the Soviet Union's approach to medium-range missiles in Asia that that approach was presented in the Soviet programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. Such missiles in the east of the Soviet Union would be eliminated at the second stage of the implementation of that programme.

The Soviet medium-range missiles in that region are countering U.S. medium-range systems deployed in the Far East. The USSR agrees to tackle the question of its medium-range missiles in Asia but the question of what to do with the American medium-range system in the Far East should be resolved simultaneously.

A French radio correspondent asked what problems had been caused to the disarmament talks by the Chernobyl accident and what the soviet reaction was to the measures taken by the EEC. Vladimir Lomeyko, chief of the Foreign Ministry's Press Department, who participated in the press conference, said: "The Soviet Union's position of principle on the Chernobyl accident was presented in the address of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Soviet television. The accident should becme a lesson to the entire world community, first and foremost because it graphically demonstrated what a formidable danger is posed by nuclear energy when it breaks free. In this situation a new approach and new thinking should be displayed by everyone.

The Soviet Union has again extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions and offered the USA immediate talks. Chernobyl is an accident and Nevada explosions are a deliberate policy of statesmen who would not listen to the voice of reason or to the demands of the world public.

"Exploiting the Chernobyl accident, the mass media and politicians in a number of Western countries, primarily in the USA, whipped up psychosis. Measures were taken by the self-same people as a result of that psychosis. That is why others cannot bear responsibility for this."

USSR, GDR, BULGARIA SEEK LIMITS ON NAVAL ARMS

LD200635 Moscow TASS in English 0630 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] New York, May 20 TASS -- The delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union called for an early opening of talks and consultations on planning specific steps to limit the operations of naval fleets, reduce naval arms and spread confidence measures to the seas and oceans. The three delegations submitted a working document for consideration to the current session of the United Nations Disarmament Commission here. The document took note of the need for reversing the continuing escalation of the race in naval arms. The document said in part that the delegations of Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union welcomed the beginning of consultations on that matter in the United Nations Disarmament Commission. By way of the urgent measure agreement could be reached on the non-expansion of naval operations of the states in the regions through which the busiest shipping routes pass and where the possibility of conflict situations is most probable-- the Indian, Atlantic or Pacific Oceans, the Mediterranean Sea or the Persian Gulf.

With regard to one of such regions — the Mediterranean where dangerous developments are taking place -- the sides could come to terms on the application of agreed confidence measures, on the reduction of the armed forces, on the withdrawal of ships carrying nuclear weapons, on renouncing the deployment of such weapons on the territory of the non-nuclear Mediterranean countries and on the nuclear powers pledging not to use such weapons against any Mediterranean country which does not permit their deployment on its terrotory. At the first phase, the document emphasized, no limitations of any kind would be imposed on the naval operations and naval arms of the Mediterranean states. As to further steps to enhance security in that region, they could be defined with due account of the Soviet proposals set forth in the January 15 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and aiming for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria, the GDR and the U.S.S.R. believe that the realization of the Soviet Union-formulated nuclear disarmament program and the proposal on working out fundamental elements of a comprehensive system of international security would undoubtedly block off ways of the race in any arms, including naval arms. The working document emphasized that if the United States withdrew its fleet from the Mediterranean Sea the same would be done simultaneously by the Soviet Union which was prepared to open talks on that matter without delay.

Such regional measures, as the transformation of the Mediterranean into a zone of stable peace and cooperation, the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and the implementation of measures to strengthen peace and security in the Persian Gulf would be of positive importance, the document said.

PRAVDA LINKS CHERNOBYL TO ARMS CONTROL

LD200205 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0023 GMT 20 May 86

["An Act of State Wisdom" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 20 May (TASS) -- "The accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station has sounded yet another alarm to all mankind," writes Nikolay Prozhogin in PRAVDA today. "It is still not too late to realize this. But this has still not been realized -- or at least it appears so -- by certain political circles in the West who have used the accident at Chernobyl as a means of unleashing a particularly odious -- in view of the tragic nature of the event -- anti-Soviet campaign.

"This has been another attempt to discredit the policy of the Soviet Union and to sow seeds of mistrust in its peace initiatives."

"At the same time," the article continues, "the events at Chernobyl should serve as a new warning to everyone -- a warning of the possible destructive power of nuclear energy if its gets out of control. One should also not forget that in today's interdependent world, the problems of the military atom exist alongside the problems of the peaceful atom -- and the problems of the military atom are now the main ones. For as great as the misfortune was at Chernobyl, it simply cannot be compared to the scale of the thousands upon thousands of catastrophes that now lie hidden in nuclear arsenals."

Pointing out that the USSR has undertaken a new initiative -- it has extended its unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests until 6 August this year -- the author goes on to write: "And so it is once again up to the United States. Let those who stand at the top in the United States show in deeds their concern for the life and health of the people, concerns they so often and so loudly, even penetratingly [kriklivo], shout about. If the U.S. Administration would only respond to the Soviet initiative and take the step that the people of the world expect of it, then the possibility of freeing the planet of nuclear tests would be a reality."

"Unfortunately, Washington's line so far does not provide great hope that they will listen to the voice of the people and the demands of common sense. Last summer and autumn, and this winter and spring, the United States continued its nuclear tests in Nevada despite the fact that in Geneva the U.S. President signed the Soviet-U.S. statement that recognized the fact that a nuclear war cannot be won and that such a war must never break out," PRAVDA notes.

WHITE HOUSE USING ABM TREATY TO PRESSURE CONGRESS ON SDI

LD191658 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- TASS News Analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The White House, seeking to protect its product -- the 'Strategic Defence Initiative' (SDI) -- from possible congressional budget cuts, resorts to direct pressure on Congress, to put it mildly. The government Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA) has sent a special report to Capitol Hill. The report conveys a thinly-veiled threat, as THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper reports today, that the U.S. Administration "may reconsider its commitment" to the ABM Treaty if Congress does not fully endorse the asked appropriations for the "star wars" programme. The ACDA report maintains that the administration's current research within the framework of the SDI "is consistent with a strict interpretation of the ABM Treaty."

But "if adequate support is not forthcoming", the report says, the administration may have to "adopt a looser interpretation of the treaty's provisions."

The very way of setting the task of establishing a large-scale anti-missile defence system with space-based elements which underlies the SDI runs counter to the letter and spirit of the ABM Treaty which was concluded between the USSR and USA in 1972. It must be recalled that the treaty makes it binding upon the USSR and the USA not to deploy ABM systems for a defense of the territory of the country and not to provide a base for such a defense. ABM components of one ABM system deployment area specified by the treaty shall be deployed on land and be stationary. It is banned to develop, test or deploy ABM systems of components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based or mobile land-based.

In the light of this, assertions by the authors of the ACDA report about an ostensibly "strict interpretation" of the ABM Treaty provisions by the U.S. side look quite untenable. Having proclaimed a programme for the development of an ABM system for the defence of the territories of the USA and of its NATO allies, Washington does not conceal that the system should have space-based elements which are banned by the treaty.

Lots of authoritative pronouncements have already been made in argument that the SDI is being ostensibly contemplated as a certain 'space sword' with an eye to the possibility of a first strike. The militarisation of outer space not only sharply broadens the sphere of the dangerous arms race. The development of space-strike weapons narrows possibilities for taking political decisions on matters of war and peace in the event of crisis situations. The military and political importance of the ABM Treaty is quite great.

As is emphasized in the very preamble to the treaty, it is a substantial factor in curbing a further build up of the most powerful arms and in maintaining strategic balance. Its stabilising role serves to ensure conditions for the elaboration of possible new agreements on limiting and reducing nuclear arms.

Therefore, as the Soviet Union has stated already more than once, any actions running counter to the treaty and being of detriment to it should be ruled out. As for the ACDA report which we have quoted and which was prepared for the U.S. Congress, one can see in it an obvious line towards washing out the ABM Treaty and towards using the "star wars" programme as a stimulus to a further arms race.

UK DECISION TO DEPLOY U.S. CHEMICAL WEAPONS ATTACKED

LD191706 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1515 GMT 19 May 86

["A Ban on Chemical Weapons": Commentary by TASS Observer Vladimir Matyash]

[Text] Moscow, 19 May (TASS) -- John Stanley, UK minister of state for defense, said on television that U.S. binary chemical weapons might be sited in Britain even in peacetime. At a time of tension, he said, it is important to have a suitable means of deterrent at one's disposal, even if that means new chemical weapons. Such a statement, phrased in an overtly militarist spirit, can only be evaluated as evidence of the country being subject to Washington's aggressive, imperialist course in the international arena.

The intention of official London is another dangerous step by the Conservative cabinet that does not miss any opportunity to reaffirm its feelings of loyalty toward the United States or to display unconditional support for the White House's militaristic course. Specific proof of this is the Tories' adherence to the star wars program, the siting of "cruise death" and Pershing-2 missiles on British soil, and permission to U.S. Air Force planes to take off from bases on British territory for the barbaric bombing of sovereign Libya. Such actions by the Thatcher government deprive Great Britain of freedom of action in formulating foreign policy. These incidents come as a blow to the independent status of Britain which is increasingly becoming the U.S. obedient ally; and they create an enormous threat to the cause of world peace.

Plans for production of new chemical weapons in the United States were recently endorsed by the NATO Military Planning Committee under powerful pressure from Washington despite opposition from a number of West European states. The White House is doing all it can to force the U.S. Congress to adopt a decision by 1 October 1986 to allocate funds to produce binary weapons.

According to NATO military doctrine, chemical weapons are allocated the role of first-strike weapons. Implementation of the NATO decision on production and siting of the new types of chemical weapons in Western Europe would mean a plain violation of the most important provisions of the joint Soviet-U.S. summit level statement in Geneva. It would also upset the military-strategic equilibrium in Europe and worldwide, and would greatly hamper talks in Geneva between the USSR and United States on arms limitation.

The U.S. plans were criticized at a meeting held recently in Prague between representatives of the CPCZ, the German SED, and the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany], who came out with an initiative for creating a zone free of such weapons in Europe. This could undoubtedly foster the cessation of the buildup of chemical weapons and lead to their elimination because the siting of binary weapons in West European countries threatens to turn the heavily populated countries of the continent into a potential theater for a ruinous chemical war, in which the civilian population would be the chief victim.

The USSR condemns the plans for the production and siting of binary chemical weapons. There is a renewed affirmation of the USSR's constructive stand in the proposals announced by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his speech at the 11th SED Congress on 18 April. The essence of these proposals is to immediately ban and destroy chemical weapons under the strictest controls, including international on-site inspection. The new Soviet proposals are clear affirmation of the fact that the USSR's words are not divorced from its practical deeds. The next step is up to those who are holding up progress in talks on chemical weapons on invented pretexts, first and foremost the United States.

U.S., NATO RESPONSE TO CW INITIATIVES SCORED

PM191459 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Aleksandr Matveyev "International Review": "Banning Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] A meeting of representatives of the CPCZ, the SED, and the Social Democratic Party of Germany has just finished in Prague. The question of creating a chemical weapons free zone in Europe was discussed. The sides, CPCZ Central Committee Secretary V. Bilak told journalists, were of the unanimous opinion that it is now more important than ever to prevent the stockpiling of chemical weapons arsenals and the production and siting of binary shells in certain West European countries.

The U.S. Administration, however, is doing its utmost to get Congress to appropriate funds for binary weapon production by 1 October 1986. Washington is also vigorously urging its allies to back the decision. A NATO bloc military planning session will begin work next week in Brussels. The main question under discussion will be the siting of U.S. binary combat munitions in Western Europe.

The implementation of such schemes undoubtedly threatens to turn the densely populated countries of Western Europe into potential theaters of chemical war of which the civilian population will be the main victim. In fact, the United States is playing a dishonest game, banking on diverting a counterstrike from its own territory and exposing its allies' population to it.

It is now more than 70 years since "silent death" weapons were used in World War I. Later, the Japanese militarists used chemical weapons during their aggression against China. And Washington has waged large-scale chemical warfare: First, against the Korean people and then against the countries of Indochina. Combat toxins killed many thousands of people and crippled millions.

And now the American strategists, who possess the largest stock of chemical weapons in the world, are undertaking a new program of "chemical rearmament." Talks on questions of chemical disarmament, long under way in Geneva, have been dragged out intolerably. In these circumstances, the Soviet Union has demonstrated a constructive approach to the problem. The 15 January statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, submitted quite specific proposals on drafting, at the earliest possible date, an agreement on the destruction of chemical weapons. "The Soviet Union," the statement stresses, "advocates the earliest possible complete elimination of these weapons and the industrial base for their manufacture." Demonstrating its goodwill, the Soviet Union stated its readiness to promptly announce the location of enterprises producing these weapons; halt their production; begin drawing up a procedure to destroy the corresponding production base; and also, after the agreement has come into force, begin eliminating chemical weapons.

At the end of April, the Soviet Union submitted new proposals to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. They envisage, in particular, that every state party to the convention will begin the destruction of chemical weapons within 6 months and the destruction or dismantling of installations for their manufacture within 1 year of the agreement coming into force. Our proposals pay great attention to questions of verification [kontrol]. It is proposed that systematic, international on-site inspections [proverki na mestakh] be conducted.

The new Soviet initiatives cut the ground from under those who had been trying to prove that our country is opposed to strict verification [kontrol] of the observance of the agreement. The Soviet Union is as interested as anyone in strict verification [kontrol].

Interim steps would also help radically to resolve the problem of chemical disarmament. A multilateral accord not to transfer chemical weapons to anyone whatsoever or to site them on other states' territory could be one such step.

The implementation of the Warsaw Pact states' proposals to rid the European Continent of chemical weapons could also form part of the interim measures. The implementation of the GDR-CSSR joint initiative on creating a zone free of "silent death" weapons in central Europe could also be highly beneficial.

How, then, is NATO responding? Very ambiguously. On one hand the representatives of the U.S. Administration, albeit grudgingly, are saying that the Soviet ideas on chemical disarmament are "interesting" and "merit close attention." However, in practice efforts are being made in the West to play down the acuteness of the problems of disarmament in every possible way. This approach was clearly apparent at the recent Tokyo meeting of the leading capitalist powers. Its participants expended many words leveling unproven charges of terrorism against Libya and loudly trumpeted that the Soviet Union "had not given" them information about the accident at the Chernobyl AES. But there was not a word about the most important matter: how to stop the arms race. M.S. Gorbachev stressed in his Soviet television broadcast on 14 May that "there has not been a word in response to the Soviet initiatives, to our specific proposals on halting nuclear tests, ridding mankind of nuclear and chemical seapons, and reducing conventional armaments." The participants of the conference of the "Seven" clearly wanted to exploit Chernobyl to distract the world public's attention away from problems inconvenient to them but which are real and important to the whole world. Certain NATO circles are now trying to prove altogether that negotiations and, even more so, agreements with the USSR are impossible and thus to give the go-ahead to further military preparations. It is abcve all those who, on the threshold of the third millennium, think in Stone Age terms and continue the fruitless search for a bigger club and a heavier stone who are intent on exploiting the situation. And, aside from nuclear weapons, binary munitions are to play the role of this club in their plans.

Why are the transatlantic generals so fond of binary weapons? These combat munitions contain two components of relatively low toxicity which combine during the shell's flight to its target, producing a lethal gas. The Pentagon claims that these combat munitions can be stored without special precautions. This means, from the Pentagon standpoint, that binary weapons will be secretly sited in the immediate proximity of socialist states and also on aircraft carriers. In short, it intends to ensure their massive use at the time of aggression.

The apologists of "silent death" are not bothered that the use of chemical weapons will result in the death of millions of civilians. U.S. and NATO military experts are only concerned with a cold calculation about these barbarous weapons' potential effectiveness. Let us remember how they rushed to Bhopal after the tragedy occurred there. And they did not go there to help the Indians poisoned by the American corporation but to study the effects of chemical weapons in a densely populated city! While dreaming about a chemical blitzkrieg and making preparations for it, the Pentagon staffers are aware that the very thought of using toxins is repugnant to any normal person. And that is why in order to secure support for "chemical rearming" among the public and, most importantly, in Congress the old refrain about the "Soviets' chemical threat" is sung year in and year out.

The slanderers do not possess any facts for the simple reason that there are none. And therefore Pentagon propagandists, both official and unofficial, are busy around the clock concocting forgeries. The U.S. Defense Department only recently paid some $1 million to retired generals whom it instructed in their capacity as "experts" to find a theoretical justification for their story of the "Soviets' chemical threat." The "theoreticians" did not think for long but simply imputed their own barbarous views of our country. And these are the conclusions they drew: "If the United States does not in the very near future create the potential for new offensive chemical weapons, it would be stupid of the Soviet Union not to use toxins against NATO forces in the next war in Europe."

It is clear that the Pentagon wants, by means of this lie, to divert the public's attention and work toward beginning the industrial production of binary weapons. And if this happens, the very question of concluding an agreement eliminating chemical weapons will be jeopardized. Problems of verification [kontrol] will become many times more complex since these weapons can be manufactured at any major chemical enterprise under the guise of production for civil purposes.

It should be noted that many of Washington's allies are greeting without enthusiasm the plans to site a new generation of "silent death" in the Old World. Only the British Government unconditionally supports the binary rearmament program. The Belgian, Netherlands, and Danish Defense Ministries have stated that the deployment of a new generation of chemical weapons on their countries' territory is impermissible. However, the U.S. representatives at the upcoming NATO bloc military planning session in Brussels will try to break the obstinate junior partners' opposition or at least somewhat stifle the voice of protest.

The U.S. actions are in direct conflict with the "spirit of Geneva." Because the meeting of the U.S. and USSR leaders expressed the desire for a general and complete ban on chemical weapons and the destruction of chemical weapons stocks. The proliferation of such weapons was also declared impermissible. The ideas formulated in recent Soviet proposals undoubtedly demonstrate our country's readiness to facilitate the destruction of "silent death" weapons in deeds rather than just words. It is time Washington demonstrated goodwill too.

KOHL WRITES 'SECRET' LETTER TO REAGAN ON ARMS TALKS

LD161812 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 16 May 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] Reports of a second secret letter from FRG Chancellor Kohl to President Reagan have appeared in Bonn. Excerpts from this secret letter somehow ended up on the pages of BILD. It is worth familiarizing you with these excerpts. It is reported that in his letter, Helmut Kohl calls on Reagan to begin talks with the Soviet Union on limiting and halting future nuclear tests.

BILD writes that in his first secret letter, the West German chancellor insisted that the West, as they say, once more take into its hands the initiative in the field of ending nuclear tests. But such a call, it seems to me, comrades, sounds more like a challenge to commonsense and logic. When may I ask, was the West so active in the field of ending nuclear tests that it can now once again take the initiative into its hands? Is it not a case of being completely the other way round? Has the United States or, say, even France ever halted nuclear tests and followed the example of the Soviet Union which unilaterally halted these tests and which has again extended the moratorium?

Well, let us go on. According to BILD, Kohl wrote this letter because there is a danger that Reagan could begin a new stage of the arms race. But why, may I ask, is there talk here of a new stage? Has Reagan ever halted the arms race? In his letter, Kohl proposes that measures be taken to counteract the efforts directed at the public by which the Soviet Union allegedly puts pressure on the West in matters of nuclear weapons tests. This is obviously the root of the problem. The whole thing obviously comes down to attempts of certain Western powers to somehow counteract the decisive efforts of our country directed at ending the arms race and neutralizing the effect of these efforts on world public opinion. It is precisely this, most likely, that gave rise to the so-called second secret letter from Kohl.

MOSCOW TV: U.S. 'DEAF' TO SOVIET PEACE APPEALS

LD160441 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1950 GMT 15 May 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] The other day President Reagan met with a group of students and told them that the United States has a consistent and logical foreign policy. He spoke eloquently about peace and prosperity and at the same time said the following: Surely it is much more sensible to get rid of weapons than to live under the threat that some madman might press the nuclear button. Yet the Soviet Union's proposals are aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and at ending nuclear tests. This was reasserted on Soviet television yesterday by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. However, it seems that once again official America is deaf to Moscow's peace appeals. In any event, White House spokesman Larry Speakes, in hastily commenting on the Soviet leader's speech, virtually rejected our new proposal on an immediate meeting by the leaders of the two countries specifically to discuss the problems of banning nuclear tests. At the same time, Speakes was rather suspiciously silent about the extension of our moratorium. Thus, the words addressed to the young Americans by the U.S. President concerning the sensible elimination of nuclear weapons have turned out to be just a propaganda trick.

LD161516 Moscow TASS in English 1401 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS -- TASS News Analyst Vasily Kharkov writes:

Washington is clearly striving to make power politics the norm of relations between the United States and United Nations organization. U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Vernon Walters on Thursday once again claimed the United States right to impose its will on other countries of the world community. He threatened with reduction of U.S. aid to those countries which, do not support the United States in the voting in the United Nations. In other words, the United States, flouting sovereign rights of independent countries and democratic principles of international relations would like to place itself in the United Nations above other states and to dictate its terms to them. By such methods Washington is striving to restore such a mechanism of voting in the United Nations as suited the United States interests.

Speaking on Thursday in one of the committees of the U.S. Senate Walters rebuked those U.N. countries that vote not in the way Washington would like. He complained that for a long time now there has been no direct relationship between U.S. aid and support for the United States in the United Nations. And Washington would like this relationship to remain and continue exerting the effect so that no one of the recipients of U.S. aid had any striving for the right to an independent stand.

Washington is annoyed at the fact that many states, when voting in the United Nations on vital international matters, do not support the U.S. obstructionist line but are guided by common sense and their own peaceful aspirations. As a result, the United States ever more often lands in complete isolation at sessions of the General Assembly and in other United Nations bodies. Instead of analysing the real reasons for this state of affairs, Washington resorts to blackmail, intimidation and other unsavoury actions against other members of the world community. These dictatorial ways attest to the imperial ambitions of the present Washington administration, reveal the essence of neoglobalism doctrine that is at the basis of the administration's foreign policy course.

And it is characteristic that only at the 40th jubilee session of the United Nations General Assembly, the United States voted 28 times against resolutions on various aspects of arms reduction. The United States has declared recently against 20 resolutions aimed at a genuine settlement in the Middle East. Far from supporting this stand, many countries, naturally, condemned it.

While the overwhelming majority of the United Nations member-countries view the United Nations organization as an effective instrument for the maintenance of peace and cooperation, an important forum for joint actions for the sake of achieving lofty aims proclaimed in the United Nations Charter, Washington would like to make the United Nations organization a scene of its arbitrary actions, to impose its monopoly and diktat.

UN DELEGATE STRESSES NEED FOR NEW NUCLEAR POLICY

LD152128 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] New York May 15 TASS -- The breakdown at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant has become another formidable warning that the nuclear age demands new political thinking and new policy.

As accidents at U.S., British and other atomic stations, it puts forth before all the states very serious issues necessitating a responsible approach, said Yuriy Dubinin, the Soviet permanent representative to the U.N., at a press conference in the United Nations. It was held as a result of the great interest displayed in the TV speech by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the headquarters of the international community.

He pointed to the need for joint international efforts and close cooperation of all states, engaged in nuclear power engineering, for ensuring safe peaceful domestication of great and formidable forces embedded in the atomic nucleus. Great danger lurks in the military atom, noted the Soviet representative. Under conditions when attention to nuclear issues has become especially keen, the Soviet Government, assessing all circumstances pertaining to the security of its own people and all mankind, has taken a decision to extend its unilateral nuclear tests moratorium to next August 6, i.e. to the date when the first atomic bomb had been dropped on Hiroshimia. It was pointed out at the press conference that Mikhail Gorbachev confirmed his proposal to President Ronald Reagan to meet in a capital of any European state or in Hiroshima so as to come to agreement on real moves towards banning all nuclear tests. Time and difficult political realities imperatively dictate the need for pooling efforts of states with different social systems for the sake of stopping the fatal arms race and radical improvement of the world political climate.

DELEGATION HEAD ADDRESSES BERN CONFERENCE

LD161554 Moscow TASS in English 1509 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Bern May 16 TASS -- Head of the Soviet delegation, Ambassador Yuriy Kashlev today addressed the conference of experts on human contacts, contacts between institutions and organizations, under way here. He assessed the state of affairs at the conference and prospects for further work.

The analysis of the proposals made, the speaker said, indicates a considerable number of points of contact, which could be supported by all countries participating in the conference. With regard to the proposals of the USSR and other socialist countries, he noted that some of them have already been supported by many delegations. These are, above all, the proposals concerning the importance of intergovernmental and interdepartmental agreements, protocols and programmes of exchanges in different spheres, as well as concerning the development of tourism, cooperation between youth organizations, between universities and others.

In a number of proposals by delegations of Western countries there are elements which deserve to be thoroughly discussed, the Soviet representative said. Meanwhile, some of these proposals contradict the letter and the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act and are actually aimed at its revision. Among the proposals of NATO countries there are such as are aimed at undermining the right of every participating country to establish its laws and administrative rules. These proposals manifest the striving to impose on other countries, in violation of the principle of sovereignty, orders and practice unacceptable for them.

With regard to assertions of some Western representatives that the number of Soviet citizens going abroad for family reasons decreased of late, the head of the USSR delegation pointed out that about 110 thousand people went abroad from the USSR in 1985 alone. During the work of the Bern conference, some 21 thousand citizens left the USSR for countries participating in the European process for family reasons, 550 people out of that number for a permanent residence abroad. These figures show that contacts for family reasons are not denied in the Soviet Union, unless there are serious and legal reasons for that.

The Soviet representative called for the intensification of the work of the conference, for an early creation of a contact group and selection of points of contact or coincidence of interests of all the delegations. This is necessary for solving the question about the possibility of drawing up a generally acceptable final document in Bern.

NATO APPROVES U.S. CHEMICAL WEAPON PLAN FOR EUROPE

LD161639 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Brussels May 16 TASS -- The NATO military-political bloc strongly pressed by the USA has approved the Reagan administration's dangerous militarist plans on "modernizing" U.S. arsenals of chemical weapons. These plans provide for production in the USA of the latest generation of chemical mass destruction weapons -- binary shells with nerve gas to be deployed in Western Europe. This "decision in principle" was adopted at yesterday's closed special meeting of the NATO Defence Planning Committee.

According to the BELGA NEWS AGENCY, representatives of the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway and Greece opposed these plans of the Pentagon. The Belgian delegation did not voice its final say on the above problem. The reason is that differences on U.S. plans emerged inside the ruling coalition in the country.

AAPSO COUNCIL CONCLUDES SESSION IN MOSCOW

PLO Officials Cited

LD161634 Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 16 May 86

["Press Conference on Palestinian Problem and Situation in Lebanon" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS -- Tension is being escalated in the Middle East region exclusively due to the aggressive course steered by the United States and Israel in that part of the world, said Abdullah Hurani, member of the Central Council of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and general secretary of the Palestinian Peace and Solidarity Committee. He took part in a press conference convened today within the framework of the 14th session of the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Council held in Moscow.

The campaign of terror waged by the Israeli occupiers against Arabs on the occupied lands is growing in scope. Israel acts in that region as an instrument of U.S. imperialism. Together with Washington it hatches new plans with a view to preventing the implementation of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

This policy harbours a threat both to the Palestinian people and other Arab peoples, and is a source of danger to the whole of mankind.

Speaking at the press conference, Taysir Qubba'h, member of the Central Council of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and member of the Political Bureau of the People's Front for the Liberation of Palestine, drew attention to the need to unify various detachments of the Palestinian resistance movement on an anti-imperialist basis. He called for stepping up the struggle against the attempts to impose an Arabs defeatist deals modelled after Camp David and the Amman agreement.

Making the U.S. and NATO interventionist forces pull out from Lebanon, the Israeli troops partially withdraw from the occupied Lebanese lands, and cancelling an agreement dated May 17, 1983, imposed on Beirut by the United States and Israel, are achieved only thanks to joint actions of the Lebanese national-patriotic forces, Syria and detachments of the Palestine resistance movements, said Albert Farhat, member of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee and secretary of the National Committee of Lebanon's Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee. To attain full success in the struggle against the Israeli aggressors and the intrigues by U.S. imperialism, he said, it is necessary to do away with disarmaments and forge the unity of all progressive forces in the Arab world.

Libyan Wants Terrorism Definition

LD162103 Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 16 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS -- The solidarity of all the progressive-minded forces and organizations is needed for countering the U.S. state terrorism, E. Abu Twerat, professor of Tripoli University, representative of the Libyan Peace and Solidarity Committee, has stated.

He spoke at a press conference held here within the framework of the 14th session of the Council of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization. We have seen for ourselves that in order to further its aims U.S. imperialism resorts to all methods, including political assassinations and open military aggression, he said.

The need for a clear international definition of terrorism has become evident, the Libyan representative said. Washington describes as terrorism the support for the national liberation movements, and not the encroachment upon the rights and sovereignty of peoples.

The U.S. Administration has got back to the imperialist policy which seemed to have long become a thing of the past. The state terrorism of the U.S. Administration can be described as a manifestation of neo-Nazism and racism and even religious chauvinism, and the aggression against Libya -- as a crusade of the 20th century.

The world was shocked by the aggression, and the peoples saw that the policy of imperialism was leading the world toward an abyss, said Bashir, secretary of the Libyan Peace and Solidarity Committee, pointed out.

However, the aggressors did not succeed in intimidating the Libyan people and subordinating them to diktat. "We will continue our struggle for Arab unity, back the just cause of the Arab people of Palestine and favour extensive cooperation with all countries, including socialist ones."

Soviet-Libyan relations, he said, considerably strengthened, rather than weakened. They received further development. "We highly value the Soviet Union's support for the fair cause of the Arab peoples. It has been and remains a faithful friend of the Arabs."

In the struggle against Zionist and imperialist aggression, said the Libyan representative, Syria and Libya remained in the same entrenchment. "We are linked by the relations of friendship and cooperation, and we will continue to regard any aggression against Syria as aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah."

The Libyan representatives came out in support of the proposals for turning the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and security and withdrawing the fleets of the USSR and the United States from the Mediterranean Sea, advanced by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

'General Declaration' Adopted

LD171740 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS -- The 14th session of the Council of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) ended here today with the adoption of a "general declaration".

The meeting, held under the motto "for anti-imperialist solidarity, peace, development and social progress", was attended by more than a hundred delegations representing democratic forces in 86 countries, as well as by representatives of 34 international organizations.

Chief on the agenda of the Moscow forum of Afro-Asian solidarity were the problems of disarmament and development, the struggle for peace and against the threat of nuclear war, the problems of establishing a new international information and economic order, the questions of the southern African peoples' struggle, the situation in the Middle East and Asia.

This session was special for it was held on the eve of the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Non-aligned Movement and on the year of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization.

Its participants stated unanimously that mankind found itself on the crossroads that decided its future, when its very survival was in danger. They stressed that in the conditions of heightened international tension, it was important as never before to strengthen anti-imperialist solidarity of the peoples in order to stop the arms race and save life and civilization on earth.

The meeting's delegates backed the Soviet peace initiatives and the Soviet Union's extension of its unilateral moratorium on nuclear blasts till August 6, 1986, and urged the U.S. Administration to give a positive reply to the Soviet proposals. The final general declaration of the session stressed the need for mobilizing world public opinion for marking the international year of peace by mass functions under the slogans of building a world without wars, without nuclear armaments and without confrontation.

The declaration denounced the U.S. policy of "neo-globalism" and said that it was Washington which was the real terrorist acting under the cover of the slogan of "combating terrorism". That was evidenced by the U.S. air raid on Libyan cities in which innocent people perished.

The Moscow meeting's participants expressed solidarity with the South African people's struggle against the apartheid regime, and demanded the immediate release of all political prisoners and the granting without delay of independence to Namibia on the basis of Resolution 435 of the U.N. Security Council.

The general declaration condemned the U.S. military aid to the puppet UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] forces in Angola and the "Mozambique National Resistance" in Mozambique, and expressed solidarity with the efforts by the "frontline" states to settle the explosive situation in the region.

The AAPSO came out in support of the struggle of the peoples in Asian countries, especially Japan and the Philippines, which demanded the removal of military bases from their territories and the withdrawal of foreign troops and nuclear weapons. They welcomed the efforts by the people in Asia, the regions of the Pacific and Indian Oceans to turn these parts of the world into peace zones free from nuclear weapons.

According to the document, a political solution of the problem around Afghanistan could be achieved on the basis of non-interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, recognition of its sovereignty and territorial integrity. The delegates to the council session of the AAPSO welcomed Vietnam's proposal to resume talks with China in order to normalise relations between the two countries.

Strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, the declaration said, was directed at undermining Palestinian resistance led by the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine. Peace in the Middle East depended on the solution of the Palestinian problem and the exercise of all legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The declaration expressed concern over Israel's joining the U.S. "star wars" programme and campaign of threats against Syria, whose people were pressing for the liberation of the Golan Heights. The delegates to the session demanded that Israel immediately end the occupation of all Arab territories, and favoured the convocation of an international U.N.-sponsored conference on the Middle East with the participation of all sides concerned.

They came out in favour of a just solution of the Cyprus problem, and demanded the removal of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force from the Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf in order to preserve peace in the region. The delegates backed the USSR's proposal that the fleets of the United States and the Soviet Union be withdrawn from the Mediterranean so that the region could be converted into a peace zone. They also favoured the termination of the senseless Iran-Iraq war.

The declaration voiced serious concern over the heightening of the situation in Central America and the Caribbean as a result of Washington's aggressive course. The forum's participants expressed solidarity with the Cuban people, and with the efforts of the Contadora countries and the support group to settle the situation in the region. The AAPSO came out in support of Nicaragua which was opposed to U.S. militarism, and welcomed the national liberation struggle of the patriots in Chile, El Salvador and Puerto Rico.

The session's participants expressed support for the Non-aligned Movement, its campaign for peace, security, and independence, against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid and Zionism.

The declaration stressed the need for restructuring the existing economic relations between the developing and capitalist countries on the basis of a new international economic order, and denounced the West's protectionist policies vis-a-vis the emergent independent nations.

The meeting's participants favoured the establishment of a new international information order as an important factor in the struggle against the domination of the Western mass media.

The AAPSO forum in Moscow demonstrated the unity of the progressive forces of the two continents in the struggle for peace, disarmament, development, and for stronger solidarity.

U.S. WARNED AGAINST ATTACKING SYRIA

LD201009 Kuwait KUNA in English 0906 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, May 20 (KUNA) -- UAE [United Arab Emirates] daily "AL-ITTIHAD" said today the Soviet Union tersely warned the United States against undertaking any military moves against Syria.

The daily said sources closely related to Syria told its Beirut reporter that the warning was "secretly" conveyed to Washington and the Soviets stressed that "no pretext or excuse" will be accepted in event any military action is mounted against Damascus.

The newspaper quoted the sources as saying the Soviet Government emphasised to the United States that should Syria be attacked by Israel or the United States, Moscow will not adopt a "similar stance" to that taken when the United States raided Libya.

The sources told "AL-ITTIHAD" that this "strong position" of Moscow was relayed to Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam by the Soviet ambassador in Damascus in a meeting last week.

The newspaper pointed out that Khaddam was not worried about an attack owing to the existing agreement of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the Kremlin. "Anyone entertaining the idea of military action against Syria should reckon the consequences due to that agreement," Khaddam was quoted as saying.

EX-RADIO LIBERTY EMPLOYEE: SHCHARANSKIY A CIA AGENT

LD191629 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1440 GMT 19 May 86

[Report by special correspondent Viktor Ponomarev]

[Text] Moscow, 19 May (TASS) -- Oleg Tumanov, former editor of the Russian service of Radio Liberty, met a group of Soviet journalists in Moscow today and called Anatoliy Shcharanskiy a "decoy duck" of the CIA. Replying to their questions about the role of Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe -- which are controlled by the CIA -- in unleashing anti-Soviet campaigns, Tumanov, on the basis of his personal experience of working for the Munich radio center, said that even before the arrest of Shcharanskiy in the USSR, Radio Liberty had repeatedly used information supplied by him in its inflammatory broadcasts. Furthermore, his information was received for processing and editing from CIA staff working for Radio Liberty. They made no secret of the fact that Shcharanskiy's involvement in activity of a political character was a kind of guarantee for the CIA agent in Moscow. In Langley, it was expected that in that case it would be difficult for the Soviet authorities to take any measures against Shcharanskiy in the light of the Helsinki agreements concerning human rights.

When the Soviet authorities exposed him as a CIA spy, it was as if a bomb had gone off at the radio station. CIA employees known to Tumanov at Radio Liberty confidentially expressed regret about the failure of "our people in Moscow" to him. Those of the Radio Liberty personnel who are connected with Zionist organizations, and that is 80 percent in the "Russian service," as Tumanov stressed, called the CIA employees who were working with Shcharanskiy, and the man himself, "idiots" for the fact that, they say, they compromised the "bright ideals of emigration." As a consequence, precise instructions came from Langley: "Actively pursue the line that Shcharanskiy was not a CIA agent, that he is an innocent victim of communism and a fighter for human rights."

In Tumanov's words, the Zionists in the editorial office instantly and with pleasure reorganized themselves, while the CIA employees and their agents at the radio station most zealously went on willy-nilly stressing Shcharanskiy's "innocence."

Knowing the history of this matter, Tumanov said, I say that information from Shcharanskiy went to the CIA, and from there in part was handed on to Radio Liberty to whip up anti-Soviet hysteria. Talking about the current fuss started by the U.S. Administration and Zionists about Shcharanskiy, Tumanov said that in this way Casey, the director of U.S. intelligence, himself is apparently trying with hindsight to spare his spy and his spy department from accusations of "idiocy." To do this they are urgently fashioning a "cherub," another "fighter" for human rights, out of an infamously failed CIA agent, arranging pompous receptions for him even in the White House. But the truth remains the truth: Shcharanskiy's spying activities were only camouflaged as "dissident" activities. And no cosmetic operations now are going to help: The label of Cain is a lasting thing. It will not be pulled off or washed away!

ARBATOV ON DARTMOUTH CONFERENCE IN AZERBAIJAN

LD171815 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1600 GMT 17 May 86

[Remarks by Academician Georgiy Arkadiyevich Arbatov, director of the United States of America and Canada Institute and co-chairman of the 15th Dartmouth Conference in Azerbaijan, on the "Novosti" newscast presented by Gennadiy Chertov; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] The state of the prospects for Soviet-U.S. relations and the probems of developing constructive contacts between the USSR and the United States are being discussed by participants in the 15th Dartmouth Conference which has opened in the capital of Azerbaijan. Our correspondent held an interview with the co-chairman of the conference, Academician Georgiy Arkadiyevich Arbatov, director of the United States of America and Canada Institute:

[Begin Arbatov recording] Representatives of the U.S. public, by the very fact of their participation in the Dartmouth meetings, are showing that they are in favor of an improvement in Soviet-U.S. relations. And you know, even in connection with the latest event in Chernobyl, the accident at Chernobyl, our atomic power station, the U.S. co-chairman, Norman Cousins, the well-known U.S. public figure and American man of letters, has sent a letter. He is one of the founders, the founder in fact, of these Dartmouth meetings but he could not attend. The letter he sent, quite honestly, has moved us very much. I have it with me, and it was read at the conference. What has this accident shown us? It has shown us very dramatically and to what extent we live in a world in which everything is so interconnected, in which everything is so mutually dependent, in which the greatest responsibility and understanding is required when what one country does is reflected on all of the others.

I think that the discussion is being conducted in this spirit. It is spontaneously developing into a discussion about an overall system of security. I would say that it is apparent from the progress of the discussion that everything that has been done by our country, our party, over the last year has not passed in vain, that people have begun to think more seriously, and many of them, I would say, have begun to think in a constructive direction. Of course, this is still not having an effect on the policies of the United States, but this is a factor that cannot pass without trace. [end recording]

JAPANESE DEFENSE MINISTER QUOTED ON SDI PARTICIPATION

LD142023 Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 14 May 86

["What Does Koichi Kato Advocate?" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] Moscow May 14 TASS -- TASS Political News Analyst Askold Biryukov writes: Chief of the Japan Defence Agency Koichi Kato has decided to make his contribution to Japan's drawing to the American star wars programme. Speaking at a meeting of government members considering the question of Japan's participation in Washington's Strategic Defence Initiative, he said that Japan's participation in SDI at the "research stage" of the programme "will not be incompatible with its stand in questions of defence."

This bold statement by the chief of the Japan Defence Agency could well be explained, since he conducts the course of all-round cooperation with the Pentagon. It is not accidental that the Japanese news agency KYODO TSUSHIN assessed it as "the latest definite indication" to Japan's readiness to participate in SDI. It is to be noted that five conferee members of the government, which asserts that it abides, as before, by "the cautious stand" in that issue, actually associated themselves with Koichi Kato's statement. They agreed that SDI is allegedly a transition from the "guaranteed mutual destruction" strategy to the "guaranteed mutual survival" strategy, since, as the U.S. explains, this is a "defensive" programme. They also asserted that Japan will allegedly not exceed the framework of its defence policy, if it participates in SDI "research works."

It is strange to hear such words uttered by reponsible leaders. They are not that naive not to know the aim of the star wars programme. No matter how hard they tried to present the programme as "defensive", it has the aim to establish an "impenetrable shield" of anti-missile defence and acquire the first nuclear strike potential so that to have a possibility of unleashing an aggression with the use of nuclear weapons "with impunity." Is not this the meaning of pronouncements by the star wars project Director General James Abrahamson who pictures in public how space weapons will hit the enemy on earth? And what about the pronouncement by his associate Air Force Colonel George Hess on the "need" for the U.S. Armed Forces to put forward from their ranks space Admiral Nelsons and Field Marshal Rommels?

The SDI's aggressive essence is seen from these revelations (and these could be continued). Those who are engaged in its realisation, least of all think of "mutual guaranteed survival." The star wars programme with the "space shield" having been announced by its kernal, does not at all abolish the "nuclear sword", being forged by the USA, but envisages its perfection. This is exactly what is being done in Nevada, where nuclear tests are continuing. This weapon threatens to become so much sophisticated that adoption of decisions on its use will wholly rest with automatic machines and mankind will find itself a hostage of computers. The "Challenger" disaster, American missile accidents, following one after another, show what this might lead to. Should there appear even through a single fault in the Washington-deployed anti-missile defence system with space-based elements, and the irreparable will happen.

Canadian scientist from Victoria University Professor D. Parnas, who refused to continue working for the star wars programme, stated in Australia that all this programme is a grandiose deception and every person linked with it knows this full well. The star wars system, he said, will only assist unleashing of a nuclear war, but by no means will help avert it.

To declare in SDI support, to justify SDI participation with "defence" references, means to mislead the public, to assist escalation of the nuclear arms race to space proportions, to heighten the threat of a nuclear war.

BEIRUT PAPER INTERVIEWS LOMEYKO ON MIDEAST ISSUES

NC160901 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 15 May 86 pp 1, 9

["Text" of interview with Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vladimir Lomeyko with unidentified correspondents; date and place not given]

[Text] Paris, Muna al-Sa'id writes:

The Soviet Union has emphasized that Lebanon's internal problems can only be solved politically if there is national unanimity among the Lebanese and respect for Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Achieving this objective through either a tripartite or some other agreement is a matter than concerns the Lebanese alone.

Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vladimir Lomeyko made these remarks in an interview with the newspaper AL-SAFIR. The Soviet official accused the United States of seeking to fan the first of regional discord, bringing the area to the brink of war.

The following is the text of the interview:

[Question] Do you believe that Gorbachev's proposals on the simultaneous withdrawal of the Soviet and U.S. fleets are practical and do these proposals still stand after the U.S. reply?

[Lomeyko] The Soviet Union believes, in principle, that the permanent presence of its military fleet in the Mediterranean is not essential. Our warships are present in the Mediterranean because the U.S. 6th Fleet, which is equipped with nuclear missiles, has, for several years, been near the Soviet Union's borders and very far from the United States. We believe that the presence of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean constitutes a threat to the security of the Soviet Union and that of its allies and friends. Recent events have confirmed that this threat is real. The simultaneous withdrawal of Soviet and U.S. ships is a very practical proposal. The only thing needed to put it into effect is for the United States to abandon its imperialist ambitions and show a desire to end the volatile situation that its recent actions in the Mediterranean have created. The proposals we made still stand and their full implementation depends on the goodwill of the United States.

[Question] How do you characterize U.S.-Soviet relations and do you believe that the pervading circumstances have ended the Spirit of Geneva?

[Lomeyko] The 27th CPSU Congress was held at the end of February and the beginning of March. It analyzed the current international situation in depth and evaluated the present situation in Soviet-U.S. relations. However, the U.S. Administration continues to implement a policy of force and does not respond to the Soviet Union's appeals to stop the arms race and improve the international situation. We are compelled to point out that, so far, the U.S. Administration has not been able to get rid of the traditions of past regimes.

As for the spirit of Geneva, it must be revived and not merely sustained as CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev put it. You may note that, directly after the Geneva summit, the Soviet Union proved its willingness to translate the accord that was reached into action. For example, the Soviet side issued a statement on 15 January, including important proposals and a realistic and clear plan on liquidating weapons of mass destruction and reducing other weapons to levels necessary for defense.

The Soviet Union has twice proposed a unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests, and has called on the United States to follow its lead in order to end the arms race. We have also proposed the withdrawal of both Soviet and American fleets from the Mediterranean. Finally, the Soviet Union has advanced new foundations for the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security. So what was America's response to all these initiatives?

The United States torpedoed all the agreements made in Geneva and took steps that aggravated the international situation. Thus, shortly after the Geneva summit, the United States launched a campaign of falsification, distortion, and humiliation against our country. More serious actions followed. The Soviet Union was asked to reduce its diplomatic staff in New York by 40 percent, and U.S. warships approached the Black Sea coast without making any attempt to hide the fact that this violation was approved by senior U.S. officials. In the meantime, new nuclear tests were conducted in Nevada, which destroyed a rare opportunity to embark on a series of steps toward disarmament. America's provocative action against Libya deserves detailed discussion. The barbaric bombardment of that sovereign state by the U.S. Air Force implies a grave deterioration of the international situation. Those in Washington and certain European capitals must be fully aware that such attempts to show off America's might and capacity to legalize the impermissible constitute a clear danger to dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States in particular, and to that between East and West in general. Obviously, the White House knows that the development of U.S.-Soviet relations cannot be isolated from America's behavior on the international scene.

The aggressive policy of force adopted by the U.S. Administration is unbecoming to the leaders of a great power. The Soviet Union would not stand still if the Soviet-American dialogue, which has begun and raised hopes for a change for the better, were to be used for continuing the arms race and preparing for war. We can only hope that common sense gets the better of adventurous policy in the United States.

The Soviet Union, for its part, is convinced of its basic need for peaceful coexistence and cooperation, provided it rests on equality and mutual benefit.

[Question] The Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachev, has apparently postponed his scheduled visit to the United States in June. Is the September summit still on?

[Lomeyko] Mikhail Gorbachev has made our position on this point quite clear. He specifically said: I agree to this meeting without any preconditions. We want it to take place in accordance with our agreement with (Reagan). That is, we want it to be a step forward and to produce practical results in halting the arms race.

While attending the SED party congress in Berlin, Gorbachev declared that "the meeting may take place if the international atmosphere is favorable. It will be justified if it brings tangible progress in disarmament. We are prepared for it. Unfortunately, we do not find Washington ready for it at the present time; rather, we see it moving in the opposite direction."

The recent U.S. actions, particularly the attack on Libya, clearly demonstrate that the current policy pursued by the Washington administration is aggressive and provocative.

This policy is intended to fan regional conflicts, maintain confrontation, and tip the scales in order to keep the region on the brink of war. The Soviet Union has repeatedly warned that these actions will certainly affect U.S. relations with the Soviet Union. As you know, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze planned to visit the United States in May for talks with his U.S. counterpart, George Shultz, on the summit conference, among other things. Regrettably, however, the actions taken by the U.S. Administration, and its constant disregard of Soviet warnings, have rendered it impossible to hold a meeting between the two officials at present.

[Question] The balance of power in the Middle East is increasingly tilting in favor of Israel, and U.S. policy is becoming more aggressive toward the Arabs. Many observers believe that the Soviet Union is not doing what it should to offset this situation. How would you explain this?

[Lomeyko] I think it is wrong to say that the balance of power in the Middle East is developing in favor of Israel, especially when it is not clear what balance you are talking about. Is it a military or political balance of power or something else? If we view the struggle to establish a just and strong peace in the region, we will find that the international community is on the side of the Arabs and their just cause. As for the main factor undermining the Arab countries' position, it seems we must look for it in the Arab world itself. There are isolated Arab countries, on the one hand, and there are differences and conflicts among the Arab countries, on the other. This situation serves the aggressor and the Atlantic master -- Washington -- who benefit from the lack of unity among the Arab ranks and exploit this to serve imperialist interests and claims, and those of its partners in the strategic alliance.

Naturally, it is not the desire to defend the Arabs' just cause that distinguishes the U.S. policy. Were the Arabs not attracted by U.S. temptations promising to settle their differences, Washington would find great difficulty in pursuing a policy hostile to the Arabs. Regarding the allegations by certain observers of a negative Soviet course, they are made by persons who do not know Middle East affairs or by parties who deliberately seek to distort facts. The Soviet Union has worked, and will continue to work, more than any other country for a just settlement, I repeat, a just settlement of the Middle East problems. The Soviet Union has offered, and will continue to offer, honest aid for the just Arab struggle for their legitimate rights and interests. I can cite several examples, but there is no need for this since a well-informed newspaper like AL-SAFIR can do this and provide ample evidence.

[Question] Now that Soviet relations with both Oman and the United Arab Emirates [UAE] have been normalized, has the Soviet Union formulated a new policy to normalize diplomatic relations with all the Gulf states, particularly Saudi Arabia?

[Lomeyko] Ever since the Arab states in the Gulf obtained their independence, the Soviet Union has relentlessly worked to promote normal and fruitful relations with them. I am sure you are aware that the Soviet Union was the first country to establish relations with Saudi Arabia 60 years ago. I believe it is more appropriate not to talk about a new Soviet policy toward the Gulf states. We must talk about the continuation of our country's policy in service of the desires of these countries to freely, and without any foreign intervention, control their wealth and solve all problems affecting their security. This Soviet policy is receiving a developing understanding from the Gulf.

The establishment of normal relations with Oman and the UAE last year is a recognition of the constructive role that the Soviet Union is playing in international affairs, and an appreciation of the sound Soviet policy that aims to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East and to enhance stability and security in the Gulf region.

[Question] What is the situation in Afghanistan, and is the Soviet Union thinking of withdrawing its troops from that country?

[Lomeyko] I would first like to emphasize that the Soviet Government has, on many occasions, announced that the presence of the limited Soviet military units, which were sent at the request of the Afghan Government, is temporary. These units will withdraw once foreign intervention ceases. This Soviet position was reiterated in the Political Report that was submitted by the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th congress. We want to withdraw the Soviet Forces from Afghanistan soon. We have consulted with the Afghan side on a timetable for evacuation in stages. This would begin upon the practical implementation of the political settlement, which would end the war and guarantee the nonresumption of armed foreign intervention into Afghanistan's domestic affairs.

[Question] How does the Soviet Union view the tripartite agreement among the Lebanese sides?

[Lomeyko] The Soviet Union favors a constructive dialogue between the political forces in Lebanon. We believe that the settlement of Lebanese internal problems is only possible through political means and through a Lebanese national consensus. Furthermore, Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity should also be respected. Whether this objective is attained after a tripartite agreement or any other agreement is something that concerns the Lebanese alone.

[Question] What, in your opinion, are the factors that prevent a solution to the Lebanese problem, and how do you view the future of this country?

[Lomeyko] We believe that the aggressive policy being pursued by the Israeli leaders represents the main obstacle vis-a-vis the settlement of the Lebanese problem. Tel Aviv, supported by Washington, decided to annex areas in southern Lebanon on the pretext of creating a security zone. This has generated tension in Lebanon and has foiled all the mediation attempts among the Lebanese. We are convinced of the need to confront the Israeli intervention into Lebanon's affairs. This stand was illustrated by the UN Security Council's resolutions, which called for creating suitable conditions for solving the Lebanese problem, establishing peace, and normalizing the situation in this country.

[Question] The Arab world is now living in an atmosphere of contradiction and anxiety because of the many racist, religious, and other crises. Do you believe that this is a part of the U.S. plan to redraw the map of the Middle East?

[Lomeyko] I have previously said that the contradictions and differences in the Arab world create gaps through which the enemies of Arabs infiltrate to undermine their efforts. I believe that the best response to Washington's plan is for the Arabs to unite in their struggle for a political settlement in the Middle East, based on equality and international justice; they should also direct their efforts toward the defense of their legitimate rights and interests.

[Question] The Soviet Union has mediated between Yasir 'Arafat and the Palestinian groups opposing him. How do you view the present situation since the failure of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement?

[Lomeyko] The Soviet Union has, more than once, reiterated its support for the unity of the Palestinian resistance, and it has contributed within the limits of its resources this unity. I do not believe it would be useful to act as mediators in the settlement of internal Palestinian problems because it is the duty of the Palestinians themselves to do this, and the sooner they do it the better. Our principled policy on this issue is known to all Palestinian organizations.

[Question] The Soviet Union's attitude toward the events in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] was one of reluctance. What is your opinion on the present situation and are there any attempts to achieve a national reconciliation?

[Lomeyko] There has been no hesitation in the Soviet Union's views of the events in Democratic Yemen. We tried from the beginning to stop the confrontations and called for the peaceful settlement of all differences through the country's democratic institutions. The Soviet Union declared that the events last January were an internal issue concerning the PDRY and that they must be resolved by the people in South Yemen. The Soviet Union warned against any external interference in this local dispute.

The situation in South Yemen is normalizing. I refer, for example, to the general amnesty issued at the end of March covering all those who participated in the events of January. I believe that the implementation of such decisions answers the second part of your question on the attempts at national reconciliation.

[Question] It appears that the Soviet Union is tilting toward Iraq in the Iraq-Iran war. How do you explain this and how do you envisage an end to this war?

[Lomeyko] The Soviet Union's stand on the Iraq-Iran war has been the same since the start of this dispute. We have always believed that this is a meaningless war between brothers and that neither the Iranian people nor the Iraqi people have any need for it. We also said that the sooner this war ends the better because it only benefits imperialism and Israel. We maintained this stand when the Iraqi Army occupied Iranian territory and when the Iranians entered Iraq.

PRETORIA CONSULTS U.S. BEFORE ATTACKING FRONTLINE STATES

LD191336 Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Harare May 19 TASS -- The Armed Forces of racist South Africa made this morning piratic air raids on the capitals of Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana -- Harare, Lusaka and Gaborone. Buildings of the mission of the African National Congress of South Africa were destroyed in Harare. The racist Air Force attacked Makeni, Lusaka's suburb, where there is a South African refugee camp. According to witnesses, explosions and machine-gun bursts of fire were heard in Gaborone suburbs this morning. South African helicopters patrolled over the city, dropping bombs and machine-gunning residential areas. According to preliminary data, one person was wounded in Zimbabwe. Three Botswanians were wounded and several are missing.

The new aggression copying the U.S. piratic air raids on the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Banghazi followed threats by South African Defence Minister Malan of starting military operations against the "Frontline" States. Analysts point out here that Pretoria concerts all such actions with the White House which regards the apartheid state as its main ally in conducting the "doctrine of neo-globalism" in Africa. Seeking to justify beforehand the simultaneous piratic sallies against the three sovereign countries, South African President Pieter Botha, in his interview published in the last issue of the American magazine "U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT", repeated the hackneyed myth of U.S. official propaganda on the "need for struggle against international terrorism". He impudently listed among countries involved in it Libya and the "Frontline" States expressing solidarity with the liberation struggle of South African people.

Maputo May 19 TASS -- The racists' actions convincingly expose the aggressive substance of the apartheid regime, says the commentary by AIM, the Mozambican news agency. Groundlessness of Malan's allegations about "infiltration" of African National Congress fighters across the border, AIM notes, only confirms the steady rise in the struggle of the oppressed masses inside South Africa. It is there and not from abroad that operations are conducted by patriots of the ANC relying on the broad support of all the sections of the country's population.

VOYEVODOV QUESTIONS BOTHA STATEMENT ON BLACK ROLE

MB180940 Moscow in Zulu to Southern Africa 1830 GMT 16 May 86

[Vladimir Voyevodov commentary]

[Text] The president of South Africa, Pieter Botha, has announced in Cape Town that there will be legislation allowing blacks to participate in government. Vladimir Voyevodov comments:

I will start by noting that in the past such an idea was not permissible and was vehemently opposed by P.W. Botha. Until recently, blacks were conned with feeble attempts at apartheid reform. News analysts have commented on President Botha's recent pronouncements and recalled other statements he made in parliament in 1979 when he said: We must adapt or die. At the same time, he was contemplating ways of perpetuating and strengthening apartheid.

Is it not right, therefore, to view his recent pronouncements in light of those words? Are they not tricks aimed at extinguishing the flames of revolution and undermining the anti-apartheid campaign? Suffice it to say lessons learned from the President's Council, which along with whites also includes coloreds and Indians. It is well known that the small numbers and roles given to the two latter groups in parliament make them ineffective in resolving important issues in government.

Is not this latest move a ploy to continue the exploitation of blacks in parliament by the Pretorial regime? It is obvious that the Pretoria government will co-opt its black puppets and yes men into government and hence increase its chances of maintaining apartheid in this country. This will be merely another form of government that will yet again think nothing of exploiting and repressing those who think differently from the South African Government.

The South African Broadcasting Service has reported that further steps will be taken to restore law and order, and said the government is investigating new measures to effectively maintain law and order and deal with the so-called criminals who, in actual fact, are part of the struggle for freedom and self-determination in South Africa.

While it seems on one hand as though Pretoria is preparing to peacefully solve the problems of this nation, to facilitate self-determination, on the other hand the government is merely strengthening its repressive hold over those fighting apartheid.

DEPARTING MOZAMBICAN ENVOY RECEIVED BY YAZKULIYEV

PM191216 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general headline "Ambassadors Received"]

[Text] B. Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received H. Patricio, ambassador of the People's Republic of Mozambique to the USSR, on 14 May in connection with the latter's upcoming departure for home. A friendly conversation took place.

ANGOLAN DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON REGIONAL ISSUES

Praises Support

LD111138 Moscow TASS in English 1539 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Luanda May 9 TASS -- The Soviet Union is our loyal and dependable ally, Pedro Maria Tonha, a member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Workers' party and minister of defense of the People's Republic of Angola, said in an interview to TASS correspondents N. Semeonov and G. Sobolev. Since the early days of their independence struggle, the Angolan people have constantly been aware of the invaluable support and assistance of the land of the great Lenin. The USSR was one of the first in the world to recognize our state and to establish diplomatic relations with it. Today the Soviet Union and Angola are fruitfully cooperating in the political, social, economic, scientific, technological and cultural fields.

The current visit of Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Workers' Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, to the Soviet Union, the defense minister said, is very important to the further expansion of diverse contacts between the USSR and Angola and will undoubtedly help strengthen ties of friendship and cooperation between our states, parties and peoples. The meetings and talks at the summit level and speeches at the Kremlin dinner by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Jose Eduardo dos Santos demonstrated the unanimity of the sides on major problems of our time, the minister said.

Today, on the 41st anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War, the defense minister said, I would like to note specifically that fascism was routed thanks to the valour and heroism of the Soviet people who, rallied around the Leninist party, resolutely rose in defense of their homeland. The feat-of-arms of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War became an inspiring example for all the peoples standing up for their freedom and independence. It is an example of uncompromising struggle against the forces of fascism, international imperialism, Zionism, racism and apartheid and for the happiness and peace on earth, the defense minister said.

Raps U.S., RSA Support for UNITA

LD111043 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0530 GMT 11 May 86

[Text] Luanda, 11 May (TASS) -- The situation in Angola and in southern Africa as a whole is disturbing and tense, declared Pedro Maria Tonha, member of the MPLA Labor Party Central Committee Politburo, minister of defense of the People's Republic of Angola, in an interview with a TASS correspondent. The main responsibility for this lies with the United States, which goes on kindling hotbeds of tension in this or that region of the world.

People's Angola, continued the minister, has not seen a peaceful day in many years, for which Washington and Pretoria are to blame. The United States and the racist Republic of South Africa [RSA] are operating according to a single plan. With the full approval of Washington and with its instigation, the Armed Forces of Pretoria are occupying the southern part of Cunene Province. Along the Angolan-Namibian border major RSA military contingents are concentrated. Also, there is a certain amount of reliance on the counterrevolutionary National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA].

It is known that Washington has been providing comprehensive aid and support to these bandit groups for some time now. Recently, however, the U.S. Administration, challenging the international community, has demonstratively and cynically announced the start of military supplies to UNITA. "Stinger" missiles have already started to arrive. Under these conditions, P.M. Tonha said, we are undertaking measures to oppose the new pressure of the imperialists, racists, and their agencies.

Some people in the West assert, the minister continued, that a civil war is supposedly under way in Angola. That is a blatant lie. The United States and the RSA are conducting an undeclared war against Angola using the UNITA bands in their mercenary aims. An increasing number of the members of these bands are recognizing the criminality and pointlessness of the armed struggle against the people of Angola.

Situation 'Alarming'

PM131316 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Unnamed TASS correspondent dispatch: "Situation Remains Alarming"]

[Text] Luanda, 12 May -- The situation in Angola and the south of the African Continent as a whole remains alarming and tense, Pedro Maria Tonha, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee Politburo and Angolan defense minister, stated in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

The main responsibility for this situation lies with the United States, which is stoking the flames of regional conflicts, conducting undeclared wars against Nicaragua and Afghanistan, and carrying out armed aggression against the sovereign states of the Near East and southern Africa. The peoples have been alarmed by the piratical U.S. attack on Libya.

Through the fault of Washington and Pretoria, People's Angola has not had a single day of peace for many years, the defense minister noted. The United States and racist South Africa are following a single plan. With the approval and at the urging of the U.S. Administration, the Pretoria military is illegally occupying the southern part of Cunene Province. Major South African military contingents have been concentrated along the Angola-Namibia border.

Some people in the West claim that there is a civil war in Angola, the defense minister said. This is a downright lie. The United States and racist South Africa, using the UNITA gangs for their own ends, are waging an undeclared war against Angola. However, more and more insurgents are starting to realize the futility of an armed struggle against the Angolan people and are giving themselves up to the Angolan authorities.

Angola, P.M. Tonha stressed, advocates an immediate solution to the Namibia problem on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 435. We are in solidarity with the South African and Namibian peoples who, under the leadership of their combat vanguards -- the African National Congress of South Africa and the South-West African People's Organization — are defending their legitimate right to freedom and independence.

USSR-ANGOLA STATEMENT ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

PM131337 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 86 First Edition p 1

["Joint Statement by the USSR and the People's Republic of Angola on the Situation in Southern Africa" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The USSR and the People's Republic of Angola, guided by their interests in the consolidation of peace and universal security, deem it necessary to call the attention of the international community to the situation in southern Africa.

The explosive situation in southern Africa harbors a serious threat to universal peace. This situation is due to Pretoria's aggressive foreign policy and the unprecedented wave of repressions launched by the racists against the majority of the South African population and to Namibia which is illegally occupied by the racists. The U.S. Administration, obsessed by imperial ambitions, acts at one with the racists. Just as in other areas of the world, it tries in southern Africa to take political revenge, to prevent the victory of the forces of national and social liberation.

Having taken the side of the terroristic apartheid regime, Washington, in order to save that regime, connives and attempts with the Pretoria racists to destabilize "Frontline" States and encourages the undeclared war that the racists have unleashed against the People's Republic of Angola and the People's Republic of Mozambique. The United States advanced to direct anti-Angolan actions, providing the most up-to-date equipment to UNITA puppet gangs.

The racists and the imperialists hope to do battle here, in the south, to the whole of free Africa, to reverse the process of national liberation and launch a counteroffensive with a view to asserting neocolonialist domination throughout the African Continent. This policy is directed against lawful rights of the peoples of African countries, also against the interests of the white population of South Africa, of whom it will require nothing but sacrifices and suffering.

Taking into account Washington's and Pretoria's growing aggressiveness with regard to the democratic system established by the Angolan people, the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Angola reaffirm their principled position, agreed upon at the tripartite Soviet-Angolan-Cuban consultations in Moscow in January 1986, that they are ready to undertake concerted action in defense of the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Angola.

The Soviet Union, adhering to the Soviet-Angolan treaty of friendship and cooperation of 8 October 1976, reaffirms complete solidarity with the selfless struggle of the Angolan people to upholding their revolutionary gains.

The situation in southern Africa calls for an immediate political settlement. To achieve it, it is necessary first to put an end to the Pretoria racist regime's policy of aggression against "Frontline" countries, to stop its interference in their internal affairs, and the use of gangs of terrorists and mercenaries.

The U.S. Administration should immediately stop providing military and other aid to the puppet UNITA forces, stop attempts to put political and economic pressure on the sovereign states of Angola and Mozambique.

The Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Angola are convinced that the immediate granting of independence to Namibia would contribute to improving and stabilizing the situation in southern Africa. They express solidarity with the heroic liberation struggle of the Namibian people that it is being waged under the guidance of its sole lawful representative -- the Southwest Africa People's Organization [SWAPO].

The Soviet Union and Angola condemn the U.S. and Republic of South Africa efforts to block an equitable solution of the Namibian problem, and their attempts to solve that problem on a neocolonialist basis, bypassing the United Nations Organization.

They declare that appropriate decisions of the United Nations, including Security Council Resolution 435, constitute the only internationally recognized basis for ensuring Namibia's independence by political means. The implementation of these decisions in full cannot and must not be made conditional on unrelated matters.

The USSR and Angola resolutely reject Pretoria's latest attempt to link the granting of independence to Namibia with the withdrawal of Cuban internationalists from the People's Republic of Angola.

Angola's sovereignty and independence, its independent domestic and foreign policy, cannot be a bargaining chip.

The Soviet Union and Angola maintain that, in resolving the Namibian issue, it is urgently necessary to enhance the U.S. role, primarily that of its Security Council, which is directly responsible for the decolonization of Namibia.

They call for a constructive discussion of the ways and means to achieve an early and practical implementation of the United Nations decisions on Namibia. The Soviet Union holds that the platform provisions of the constitution of the People's Republic of Angola (September 1984) and appropriate amendments to it, aimed at the ensurance of Namibia's independence, security, and peace in Southwest Africa, serve exactly this aim.

The Soviet Union and Angola are convinced that only with the eradication of the inhuman apartheid system in the Republic of South Africa can durable peace triumph in the region and relations of cooperation and good-neighborliness be established.

The Soviet Union and Angola reaffirm their invariable solidarity with the courageous fighters against apartheid led by the African National Congress, who call for the creation in South Africa of a united and democratic state based on the principle of majority rule. They resolutely demand the release from racist jails of Nelson Mandela and of all other political prisoners.

The crimes of the racists which became possible under the conditions of the "constructive engagement" policy conducted by the United States with regard to the Republic of South Africa, and because of the connivance with the racists by the governments of some other Western countries mean defiance to the entire civilized world. The USSR and Angola urge those states to withdraw without delay any support for the Pretoria regime and join in international actions, including the introduction of comprehensive mandatory sanctions in accordance with Chapter 7 of the UN Charter.

The Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Angola urge the governments and public of all countries, international organizations, all people of goodwill to mobilize their efforts in support of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia, and of "Frontline" States to promote a quick and equitable settlement of South African problems in the interests of stability and durable peace.

Such a settlement would be a substantial contribution to the overall improvement of the international climate and to the consolidation of universal peace and security of peoples.

PRAVDA REPORTS TEXT OF USSR-ANGOLA JOINT COMMUNIQUE

PM131333 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 86 First Edition p 4

["Joint Soviet-Angolan Communique" -- PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola [PRA], visited the Soviet Union from 6 to 10 May 1986 on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Soviet Government.

A heartfelt reception and warm hospitality were offered to the high-ranking Angolan guest and accompanying officials.

The Angolan leader laid wreaths at the Mausoleum of V.I. Lenin and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin wall.

Apart from Moscow, Jose Eduardo dos Santos and his delegation visited the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic, where they took part in the festivities marking the 41st anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945.

During the visit a fruitful, comradely exchange of opinions on the most acute problems of the contemporary international situation took place between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and J.E. dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola. Particular attention was devoted to the situation in southern Africa. Long-term directions in the development of Soviet-Angolan relations were examined.

M.S. Gorbachev spoke of the work which has been going on in the Soviet Union on implementing the grandiose task of communist construction, set by the 27th CPSU Congress, and of the program put forward by the congress to ensure international security and the creative interaction of the states and peoples of the whole planet, in the interests of preserving and consolidating peace. The Angolan officials stressed that the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress have a lasting significance for the assertion of the ideals of socialism, national liberation, and peace.

J.E. dos Santos spoke about the Angolan people's efforts to fulfill the decisions of the second congress of the MPLA-Labor Party for aiding economic development and constructing the foundations of a socialist society in Angola. He also spoke about measures necessary to defend revolutionary gains against aggression and subversive actions by the racist Republic of South Africa and the puppet UNITA gangs backed by the United States. The Soviet side assessed highly the steadfastness and courage with which the Angolan people and its vanguard -- the MPLA-Labor Party -- are standing up for the political choice they have made in the face of blackmail and pressure from imperialist and racist forces.

J.E. dos Santos met with A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and they discussed questions concerning the struggle for peace, the strengthening of international security, and the elimination of nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction.

They exchanged information on the activities of the organs of people's power in the two countries and the problems confronting them. They also discussed questions concerning the development of Angolan-Soviet links through parliamentary channels.

Soviet-Angolan talks were held. Those taking part were, on the Soviet side: N.I. Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; E.A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister; S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister; N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; B.I. Aristov, CPSU Central Committee member and minister of foreign trade; K.F. Katushev, CPSU Central Committee member and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; L.F. Ilyichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR deputy foreign minister; R.A. Ulyanovskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; and A.I. Kalinin, USSR ambassador to the People's Republic of Angola.

On the Angolan side were M. Mambo Cafe, candidate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party and minister of state for economic and social affairs; A. van Dunem, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and minister of foreign relations; E. Domingos Domingos, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and minister of agriculture; J.C. Augusto, MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee member and ambassador of the PRA to the USSR; J.D. Flora, minister of construction; C.A. Fernandes, secretary of state for cooperation; A. dos Santos, deputy minister of foreign trade; A.F. Galvao Branco, deputy minister of industry; R.L. Monteiro Ngongo, deputy chief of the PRA Armed Forces General Staff; A. dos Anjos, director of the Presidential Cabinet; A. da Silva Inacio, vice governor of the National Bank; and A. Nsikalangu, secretary for economic affairs in the Office of the President.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the fruitful development of Soviet-Angolan relations based on the USSR-PRA Friendship and Cooperation Treaty of 8 October 1976. They stressed that this treaty, the 10th anniversary of which will be marked this year, is a reliable foundation for the further strengthening of friendly Soviet-Angolan links, and contributes to the cause of ensuring the security of the People's Republic of Angola and its social and economic development.

The two sides evaluated highly the political cooperation between the Soviet Union and Angola, the actively developing fraternal relations between the CPSU and the MPLA-Labor Party, the links between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the PRA People's Assembly, and the links between the public organizations of the two countries.

Questions of bilateral economic and trade cooperation were discussed in detail, and ways of raising its effectiveness in such priority fields as energy, construction, agriculture, the mining industry, sea fishing, health, and the training of national cadres were examined.

The Angolan side evaluated highly the USSR's internationalist help in developing the national Armed Forces and strengthening the People's Republic of Angola's defense capability.

During an exchange of opinions on the urgent problems of the current international situation, those taking part in the talks agreed in their evaluations of the sources of its present serious worsening. It was stressed that the basis for this growth in international tension lies in the militaristic line adopted by the United States, its imperial policy, and its attempts to dictate its will to sovereign states.

The USSR and Angola resolutely condemned the aggressive actions of the United States against Libya, assessing them as the most gross violation of the UN Charter and of the norms of international law. They expressed solidarity with the Libyan people and demanded the immediate cessation of the policy of state terrorism being conducted by the United States against this sovereign state.

The Angolan delegation was informed in detail of the steps being taken by the Soviet Union to implement the foreign policy strategy evolved by the 27th CPSU Congress, which is aimed at eliminating all types of mass destruction weapons by the end of this century, to reducing other armaments to the limits of necessary defense, and at creating a comprehensive system of international security that would secure the vital interests of all the world's peoples without exception.

J.E. dos Santos stressed that Soviet peaceful initiatives, which embrace all aspects of international security -- the military, political, economic, and humanitarian -- are in accordance with the vital interests of the liberated states. He underlined the People's Republic of Angola's support for the Soviet initiatives.

Both sides noted that the cessation of all nuclear tests, and holding talks on formulating an agreement for placing a complete ban on them in all areas, should become an important step in the direction of curbing the nuclear arms race. They spoke resolutely in favor of not permitting the arms race to spread into space. The Angolan side spoke in support of the new proposals set out in the speech by M.S. Gorbachev at the 11th SED Congress on significantly reducing conventional weapons and armed forces in Europe. The sides stressed the exceptional importance of joint action by all peace-loving forces in the struggle to prevent nuclear war, to stop the arms race, and to consolidate international security.

During the talks, concern was voiced at the tension persisting in many parts of the world, and attempts by the forces of imperialism, headed by the United States, to make use of regional conflicts to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states were condemned. The sides spoke in favor of a more vigorous collective quest for ways of settling conflict situations in various parts of the world by political means.

Having made an overall analysis of the situation in southern Africa, the participants in the talks described it as explosive and a threat to international peace. They expressed the conviction that this crisis situation can and should be settled by political means in the interests of the peoples of the region and to ensure stability and peace in the region. Such a settlement would promote a lowering of international tension and a strengthening of worldwide security.

The sides decided to issue a joint statement on the situation in southern Africa. The sides attach great significance to the efforts of the Organization of African Unity in the struggle against imperialist expansion, for the complete elimination of colonialism, racism, and apartheid, for the strengthening of the political and economic independence of the countries of the continent, and for peace and disarmament. The Soviet Union and Angola spoke in favor of taking active practical steps directed at turning Africa into a zone free of nuclear weapons and foreign military bases.

The Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Angola condemned U.S. encroachments on the sovereignty of Nicaragua, and confirmed their solidarity with the Nicaraguan people who are defending their right to free and independent development. The sides spoke in favor of a just political settlement in Central America, without any interference or outside threats.

The two sides spoke in favor of achieving a just and comprehensive settlement of the situation in the Near East on the basis of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied since 1967, and of the implementation of the legitimate right of the Palestinian people to establish their own state, and, along with this, also spoke in favor of convening an international conference with the participation of all interested parties, including the PLO.

The Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Angola expressed solidarity with the struggling Afghan people. They support the efforts of the DRA Government aimed at achieving a political settlement, which would ensure a real end to armed and any other form of intervention from outside in the internal affairs of Afghanistan, and would reliably guarantee its nonrecurrence.

The sides asserted their unchanging position in favor of solving the problems of Southeast Asia by political means, by establishing a constructive dialogue between the states of the region such as is proposed by Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

The participants noted the increased positive role of the Nonaligned Movement in present day international relations. They stressed the importance of the forthcoming Eighth Conference of Nonaligned States in Harare in 1986 and expressed confidence that it will make a significant new contribution to the solution of such cardinal problems as the strengthening of peace and international security, curbing the arms race, nuclear disarmament, the development of international cooperation based on equal rights and mutual advantage, the struggle of the peoples of the world against imperialist domination, economic discrimination, and neocolonialism, and for the elimination of racism and apartheid.

During a discussion of issues concerning international economic relations, it was stressed that the USSR and Angola are in favor of restructuring them on a just and democratic basis, and favor the establishment of a new international economic order guaranteeing equal economic security for all states.

The sides advocated convening an international congress on problems of economic security, at which it would be possible to discuss in their entirety the burdens of world economic ties, and also the holding of talks, within the framework of the United Nations, with the participation of all states, with the aim of achieving a global and just solution to the most important international economic problems. They stressed the pressing need for a just settlement of the developing countries' foreign debts, which have been brought about by the imperialist policy of neocolonialism.

The two sides stressed that the implementation of the Soviet Union's foreign policy initiatives, put forward in the 15 January 1986 statement by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev, would not only guarantee genuine security for mankind, but would also allow the release of significant resources for the improvement of people's living conditions and the elimination of the economic backwardness and underdevelopment of many states.

Both sides noted the great importance of the special session of the UN General Assembly convened in May 1986 on the critical economic situation in Africa. It is their firm conviction that at the forthcoming session it is essential to work out effective measures of a comprehensive and long-term nature directed toward rooting out the deep causes of economic crisis in Africa and at freeing international economic relations from discrimination and arbitrary behavior.

M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and J.E. dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Repbulic of Angola, signed a plan on party links between the CPSU and the MPLA-Labor Party for 1986-1988.

The two sides expressed great satisfaction with the results of the official friendly visit to the USSR by J.E. dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Repbulic of Angola, which took place in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and total mutual understanding. They are convinced that this visit will further the ongoing consolidation and strengthening of all-round Soviet-Angolan relations.

The Angolan side expressed its gratitude for the warm and cordial welcome it was shown during its visit to the Soviet Union.

J.E. dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola invited M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to make an official visit to the People's Republic of Angola. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction. The date for the visit will be coordinated through diplomatic channels.

IZVESTIYA REVIEWS TIES WITH CONGOLESE

PM141342 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 May 86 Morning Edition p 5

[F. Konopikhin article: "Reliable Basis; 5th Anniversary of the USSR-Congo Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation"]

[Text] In Brazzaville it is said with a smile that many young mothers and their first-born start benefiting from Soviet-Congolese cooperation from the cradle. The modern buildings of the Blanche Gomez Maternity Home in the central part of the Congolese capital were built with Soviet aid and presented as a gift to the Congolese people. A large group of Soviet physicians, who help the hospital collective, are constantly at work here.

The Blanche Gomez home is not the only symbol of our fruitful ties with the Soviet Union, which are based on the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the Congo signed 13 May 1981. The buildings of the Cosmos Hotel, the party school, and the largest scientific veterinary laboratory in tropical Africa, which adorn the capital, were also built with Soviet help. The coal mine in Mfouati, that was created jointly by the Congo and the USSR, is called the firstborn of Congolese industry.

The country lacks national cadres and, to help the young republic, the Soviet Union has trained hundreds of specialists in its VUZes. Now Soviet teachers, engineers, physicians, and geologists work alongside their Congolese colleagues. Many young Congolese men and women are continuing their studies or taking training courses in Soviet cities.

Friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union is seen in the republic as a most important condition for developing the popular democratic revolution and strengthening the Congo's socialist orientation. The Soviet Union's unswerving support for the young state's foreign policy is common knowledge. Both countries actively cooperate in the world arena and have identical or close positions on most international problems.

ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI NORMALIZATION TALKS HELD

PM161456 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 86 First Edition p 5

[Our correspondent I. Tarutin report: "Toward Normalization of Relations"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 15 May -- The first official meeting of Ethiopian and Somali foreign ministers, at which questions concerning the settlement of the years-long conflict between these countries were discussed, was held here. It was agreed to continue consultations within the framework of the Standing Joint Ethiopian-Somali Committee for the Normalization of Bilateral Relations. The committee was set up following the meetings held between the heads of the two states in Djibouti last January.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON CHERNOBYL REPORTED

Ukrainian Health Precautions

LD191505 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 16 May carries a 3-minute report on post-Chernobyl medical precautions in Borodyanskiy Rayon of Kiev Oblast. The video shows work at one clinic, where a nurse is taking down information on people arriving. Next to her is a large notice board. The top part of the notice board reads as follows:

"Ministry of Health of the UKRSSR reminder of prophylactic measures for the period of the pollution of the environment by radioactive matter.

"For the period of the temporary deterioration of the radiation situation, several measures are recommended to protect people against the possible effects of radioactive matter. Radioactive matter is propagated primarily by dust. Drafts in rooms should be prevented. Damp mats should be placed in the entrances of apartments, and footwear should be wiped. Outer clothing and footwear should be cleaned with a wet brush and left in the hall. The mat should be changed and washed every day.

"During this period, it is best to roll up carpets and put covers over soft furniture. The apartment must be washed with laundry soap. Wall-to-wall floor coverings such as linoleum should be washed using plenty of water. Children and pregnant women should spend as little time as possible out of doors. Radioactive matter accumulates on the leaves of trees and bushes."

The camera then zooms out to show more of the same notice board, though not all of it. No more of the notice is visible.

TV Updates Monitoring Measures

LD191934 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 May 86

[A. Kruton report from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As our correspondents report, continuous work to encase the damaged reactor in concrete is under way at Chernobyl AES. A major construction base was set up with this purpose in mind at the Vilcha railway station, to wage an offensive against the damaged unit. Miners have commenced drilling to create a protective cushion underneath the reactor. The rate of decontamination of dangerous sectors amounts to 300,000 sq meters per 24 hours.

[Krutov] The day in the accident zone commences with the analysis of the radiation status. Constant monitoring of the sanitary state of water, air, and the soil is being carried out. Particular attention is focused on water. Such banks as these here have been set up along the shores of the Pripyat, so as to keep rainwater from flowing into the river. [video shows pink soil, possibly earth and sand, formed into banks]

Questions of setting up artificial biochemical barriers are being resolved simultaneously. [video shows an artificial bank covered with white material] Radiation monitoring posts have been set up everywhere where people live and work.

[Caption identifies next speaker as V.V. Tartak; video shows man in white cap and blue overalls.] I am the duty radiation monitoring officer of the radiation safety service.

[Krutov] Yes, well, what does your instrument say?

[Tartak] The instrument says that now the state of radioactivity has reached a level completely permissible for working, and that its presents no particular danger. We have not had any special irradiation cases so far, since the time when the actual accident took place.

[Krutov] I see. [video shows closeup of large truck coming to a halt; man in blue overalls goes over one of its tires with an instrument]

All data, collected from hundreds of places, come here, in this room of the operations staff. [video shows door with two pieces of paper stuck to it; the top piece says: "Radiation Safety Group;" the bottom pieces says: "First Aid Post"]

[Video shows a group of people wearing white hats, heads bent low over document-strewn table] [Unidentified voice] Let us make a concrete plan: What points we will visit. Let us now draw up some sort of a grid on these (?traces).

[Second voice, interrupting] We are to map in contours an area of (?half a hectare) in the (?region).

[Krutov] Leonid Andreyevich, tell us please, what is the conversation about now, what is being discussed?

[Caption identifies speaker as L.A. Ilin, vice president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences] We are currently examining questions connected with itemization of research, with a more accurate assessment of the radioisotope composition of [word indistinct] pollution.

The main thing is to determine the amounts in various regions and in the affected zone. Over the next few hours a group of our specialists will be off to its positions; samples will be taken from various objects in the outside environment. They will be measured with the aid of highly sensitive equipment; they will be studied and then entered on the map. After that, imformation will be summed up.

[Krutov] What is the situation like today?

[Ilin] The situation has normalized itself. Distinct tendencies toward improvement can be observed. And it is with the analysis of this tendency that we are busy at this moment.

[Krutov] Powerful forces of the whole country, productive and scientific-technological alike, have been mobilized to eliminate the consequences of the accident.

Helicopters 'Bomb' Reactor

PM191305 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 May 86 Second Edition p 4

[Report by special correspondents Colonel V. Filatov and Captian Lieutenant V. Ankov: "Beneath Us the Reactor"]

[Text] Chernobyl City, region of the Chernobyl AES -- We arrived at the helicopter pad from which helicopters take off and fly to the Chernobyl AES, which is roughly 12 km away. This pad is a field that seems to have been sown with wheat. But the harvest from it will not be gathered this year. There are white mounds all over the field. They are sacks containing sand, marble dust, dolomite, lead, boron... The very sacks with which the helicopter pilots are bombing, so to speak, the fourth reactor unit.

Flights from the pad start early in the morning and continue as long as there is daylight. Just one or two duty crews stay the night. The others fly off to the district base airfield. During the night there the equipment has to be decontaminated, while the crews must change their uniforms, wash, and undergo careful medical monitoring. At sunrise it starts all over again. Flights to the crater take place strictly according to a plan that the air commanders draw up the night before. Reconnaissance of the radiation situation above and next to the crater is also carried out strictly according to schedule at least four times a day or, if necessary, even more. I flew with one of the crews that was to carry out such reconnaissance.

The panorama of the Chernobyl AES and its near and distant environs opened up 2 or 3 minutes after takeoff, right on course. Close at hand there was a small village luxuriating in gardens, while farther away, as though drawn on a picture, there were modern housing districts -- the power workers' town. The creations of human hands stood out in the midst of inimitable nature: handsome multistory apartment blocks, sports fields, swimming pools, highways. We headed straight for the fourth reactor unit at a speed of 140 km per hour. To the right the two 150-meter high flues of the AES served as a reference point.

When we took off we donned respirators and could not longer recognize one another. The familiar helicopter cabin -- I knew it from numerous flights made with our pilots in Afghanistan -- now looked different: It had been lined on the inside with gray lead sheets for protection against radiation. Everything else was as usual. Even the mustache of Captain A. Volkov, helicopter commander. Some of our pilots in Afghanistan wear such mustaches. And it came to light even before the flight that Volkov has had it since he was fulfilling his international duty there. Of all the pilots who have participated and are now participating in eliminating the aftermath of the accident, many were participants in combat operations against the dushmans.

Senior Lieutenant V. Krokhmalev sat on Volkov's right. He is a pilot-navigator as well as a Komsomol secretary. I was told that he is liked by Komsomol members because his words are never at variance with his deeds. Between Volkov and Krokhmalev was Senior Ensign V. Datsyuk, flight technician. All crew members are Communists. But the commander has a special place. He flew for more than 1,700 hours under combat conditions in Afghanistan. It is not hard to calculate how many combat sorties he flew... He and his crew have been over the center of the crater 12 times.

And there was the crater beneath us. On the right was one of the 150-meter flues. On the left a blind wall -- the end of the main building of the AES. The reactor itself was there. The flat roof seemed to have been smashed from within. Twisted reinforcement, some broken metal grilles, and charred black objects stuck out, while congealed streams of bitumen on intact parts of the roof and some numerous mounds gleamed.

Only on realizing the scale of the misfortune that might have befallen do you see clearly the scale of the exploit and the high degree of heroism displayed here by Soviet people both in and out of uniform.

"Altitude 110 meters. We have the measurement," Volkov stated in an even voice, as though on ordinary exercises, when the fourth reactor unit itself was right beneath us.

Which measurement was this? The 100th? The 1,000th? I do not know. But I do know who made the very first measurement and who was the very first over the spot where we were at that moment. He was Captain Sergey Ivanovich Volodin, military pilot first class. What he accomplished was real reconnaissance in force. He exposed himself to unknown fire in order to ascertain the enemy's strength, as people say in such cases. And he fulfilled his task.

We turned and headed once again for the reactor -- our mission was to take measurements of the radiation from four directions. Beneath us lay the reservoir that comes right up to the AES. Boats and launches lay on the golden sandy shores like children's sandals, and there was the smooth empty expanse of water. Not a soul around. I transferred my gaze to the approaching AES building. And I saw movement alongside and around it... There were two red fire trucks, and beside them people were washing something from the road with fire hoses. On the other side there were two moving armored carriers and a concrete-delivery truck... People were working there. My heart grew lighter to think that people down below could see us over the crater and see that they were not alone, and they were probably happier too... Together things are always better.

"Altitude 110 meters. We have the measurement," Capt Volkov reported to the ground.

Colonel B. Nesterov, military pilot first class, was the second to fly to carry out reconnaissance after Capt Volodin. It was he, Nesterov, who dropped the very first sandbag into the mouth of the crater. It was then, too, that our helicopter pilots were the very first to look into it and report what they saw to members of the state commission, scientists, and specialists. Then there were others.

A turn to the right -- and the Kiev Sea opened up to its full width. Not a happy sight these days, because there are none of the usual things on the sea: boats, pleasure launches, people. Empty....The only things to be seen were buoys -- white ones and red ones. Of no use to anyone just now. But everyone here believes that this will not be the picture for long, that everything will come back here in the very near future. But what is needed for this is a very great deal of hard work, just as our helicopter pilots have worked and are working now.

The helicopter took us to the crater a third time. A third measurement. And then there would be a fourth... I understood -- four approaches from four different directions. From due north, due south, due east, and due west. All this in order to know precisely and all around -- may I be forgiven for the pun -- so as, if necessary, to warn people to the south, to the north, to the east, and to the west.

"Altitude 110 meters. We have the measurement!" A steep turn, and we set off for the point from where we took off several minutes previously. Down below I saw a growing stream of vehicles heading along the roads toward the AES. We landed. With an abrupt movement Volkov threw open the window. Fresh air rushed into the cabin.

"So, let us look the instruments in the eyes," the captain said in a joking tone. "What dose did we get this time?" He looked at the instrument. "How much did each of us get? Normal... Until the next flight..." It remains to be added that, in addition to everything else, I. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, said in conversation with us KRASNAYA ZVEZDA journalists: "We are monitoring the situation fully [kontroliruyem polnostyu]. We are now stepping up efforts to eliminate the aftermath of the accident."

SUPREME SOVIET SESSION TO CONVENE 18 JUNE

LD171440 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1407 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 17 May (TASS) -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has decided to convene the fifth session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation, on 18 June in Moscow. The following issues are to be presented for examination at the session:

1. The state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR for the period 1986-1990.

2. The confirmation of decrees of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

GROMYKO HOLDS BUDGET MEETING; TALYZIN GIVES REPORT

LD191547 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, held a meeting in the Kremlin today with the chairmen of the planning and budgetary and other standing commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

They discussed questions connected with the preliminary consideration at the commissions was held in the Kremlin on the same day with the participation of representatives of the other standing commissions of the two houses.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium recommended that in examining the plan, using as a starting point the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the directives of the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the party congress, attention should be focused on ensuring that in it the tasks and steps for raising the rate of developing the economy and its effectiveness based on the acceletation of scientific and technical progress, on the technical reequipping and reconstruction and production, on the intensive use of the existing production potential on strengthening the system of making economies and perfecting the system of management of the economic mechanism, as established by the draft guidelines for the conomic and social development of the country for 1986-90 and the period up to the year 2000 be implemented in full. On this basis it should be focused on achieving further improvement of the well-being of the Soviet people in accordance with the indices instituted in the plan as a rule for the level of the upper limit of the tasks envisaged by the draft guidelines; as well as on the fulfillment of taksk in the USSR power engineering and Food Program, the Comprehensive Program, the consistent implementation of structural and active investment policy, the concentration of resources on the most important directions for the socioeconomic development of the country, the implementation of construction in strict accordance with the normative time scales, the creation of the necessary conditions for a radical turning point in the work of the national economy, the dynamic and balanced development of all its branches, the improvement of foreign economic ties, achieving the set tasks for housing construction and the development of the network of social development of the union republics and regions.

A report on the state plan for the socioeconomic development of the USSR for 1986-90 was delivered at the meeting by Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chariman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the USSR Gosplan.

According to a report by Comrade Masol, chairman of the Budget and Planning Commission of the Soviet of the Union, the order and dates for examining the plan for 1986-90 have been determined. For this purpose 16 joint deputies' preparatory commissions have been set up. On the basis of material from these commissions the findings [zaklyucheniya] on the plan for the 12th 5-Year Plan period and the corresponding report of the standing commissions will be prepared.

Organizational meetings of the preparatory commissions were held. They confirmed work plans and discussed other matters.

PEOPLE'S CONTROL COMMITTEE CRITICIZES OFFICIALS

PM191349 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 May 1986 Morning Edition carries on page 2 a "People's Control Page," including two items critical of USSR deputy ministers.

An unattributed 700-word report under the heading "At the USSR People's Control Committee: When They Do Not Look After Machinery" outlines "serious shortcomings in the utilization of land reclamation and other machinery" by construction organizations of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources Main Administrations for Water Resources Construction in the Volga Region, Kirghizia, Tajikistan, and the Far East and the Main Administration of Rice Growing Construction in Astrakhan Oblast. After giving examples of the shortcomings, the report notes:

"B. Pozharskiy, USSR deputy minister of land reclamation and water resources, does not exercise due control of the utilization and safekeeping of land reclamation and other machinery by water resources construction organizations, and is tolerant in his attitude toward instances of the poor operation, careless storage, and squandering of machines."

After noting reprimands for several main administration chiefs, the report concludes:

"I. Pozharskiy, USSR deputy minister of land reclamation and water resources, was reprmanded for poor control and insufficient exactingness toward the leaders of subordinate organizations for the utilization of land reclamation machinery. He was warned that if he does not take steps to eliminate the shortcomings exposed, stricter proceedings will be taken against him.

"Note was taken of B. Pozharskiy's statement that the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources will examine the materials from the investigation and will take proceedings against the officials to blame for the shortcomings."

An 1,800-word "Satirical Sketch" by Ustin Malapagin under the heading "Garnish for Carp" goes into detail on the shortcomings revealed in the work of the All-Union Science-and-Production Association for Fisheries, criticizing in particular the association's general director, A. Zaytsev. Zaytsev, it is noted, had "active assistance" from First Deputy Minister N. Kudryavtsev in his "fishing for bonuses in the murky waters of curtailed accountability." The people's controllers, Malapagin says, called Zaytsev strictly to account. "He will pay for his unsatisfactory work with 3 months' salary and a strict reprimand, with a warning of dismissal from his post." In addition, "N. Kudryavtsev, USSR first deputy minister of the fish industry was also called to account."

LIGACHEV VISITS KAZAN MACHINERY WORKS

LD192245 Moscow Television in Russian 1700 GMT 19 May 86

[Report on visit to Kazan of Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo by unidentified correspondent -- from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Ligachev is in Kazan. Today he visited a number of enterprises of the town and Kazan's Vladimir Ilich Ulyanov-Lenin State University. Our special correspondents report:

One of the enterprises Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev visited in Kazan was the Kazan Compressor Machinery Works, which is now at a new stage of development. At the beginning of this year the works joined planning and design organizations and became a scientific-production association. A considerable proportion of the output is sent from here to west Siberia -- compressors for the oil industry. Here there are top class machines and there are some like this, [video shows large dynamo or compressor] having no counterpart in the world. And of course, as is always the case when guests arrive, the briefing started with the very best. [Video shows Ligachev standing in the factory talking to managerial staff including the director, A.M. Galeyev]

[Ligachev] So you consider your machines to be up to the standard of world models and even better?

[Galeyev] Not quite, I mean we ...

[Ligachev, interrupting] This is "not quite" is what is worrying us at all. [spectators laugh] So it is good but not quite, how are we to understand this?

[Galeyev] The fact is, the technical and economic indices of our machines are not inferior, but to make them better has been a bit of a job so far.

[Correspondent] That is what was discussed at the meeting. The question asked, was what does the association need to step up output of the most productive and reliable equipment for the oil fields. Documents adopted recently by party and government for solving this problem were mentioned. There was discussion of questions that keep cropping up: creation of an experimental base of the association, a testing ground that is to be set up, better opportunites for effective use of the wage fund -- they have been granted; overcoming interdepartmental barriers. All this is being solved. But why does it take so long, the director was asked.

[Galeyev] I have now been given instructions. Tomorrow I will write a memorandum to the Central Committee and Council of Ministers. In the memorandum I will set down all the..

[Ligachev] Why can you not solve the problem at the level of the ministry?

[Galeyev] It is not just a question for our ministry. To make gas synthesizing plant for instance, for obtaining ammonia there are 50 different enterprises and eight ministries taking part -- they need to be coordinated -- there are some 20 planning organizations and some 50 or more production...

[Unseen person] But of course, our production is specialized.

[Galeyev] ...so to coordinate these questions we need bodies able to assume the power of authority.

[Ligachev] But the most important thing is to give you the most essential rights so you can get the ministry and government to answer for it.

[Galeyev] If we can solve this problem the future is ours.

[Ligachev, speaking to correspondent] Comrade Galeyev told me just now that we seemed to be have needed everything given to us on a plate, but now it is up to us. This does not worry him any more.

Speaking to him just now we solved the question of simplifying coordination from the viewpoint of design and manufacture of new equipment, we simplified questions connected with staff, especially managerial staff. What else is needed? I think that must be about all.

[Correspondent to Galeyev] It is all right at their enterprises, but what about enterprises not visited by members of the Politburo, how do they settle these questions?

[Galeyev] It looks as if the call of the party, the tasks set by the party, are all equally imperative. For instance, Tyumen people -- I only had to call Tyumen the day before yesterday -- and today they are here.

[Ligachev] So the situation changes.

[Galeyev] The situation changes.

[Ligachev] You can feel a change for the better in the whole business, or is everything the same as before?

[Galeyev] It is going slowly so far and it would be nice if it went faster, but it needs time apparently.

[Ligachev] Well, we have spent a lot of time, I think our time is up now.

[Galeyev] So is mine.

LIGACHEV, DEMICHEV, YAKOVLEV AT FILMMAKERS' CONGRESS

PM191051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 86 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Heroes in Life and on the Screen"]

[Excerpts] Art is called upon to move people, to stir them, to awaken in the civic consciousness and a sense of responsibility for the future of the country and society -- this is the leitmotiv of the speeches of the delegates to the Fifth USSR Cinematographers Congress. On 14 May the congress continued its work in the Great Kremlin Palace in Moscow. Comrades Ye. K. Ligachev, P.N. Demichev, A.N. Yakovlev, and Yu. P. Voronov, head of the CPSU Central Committee Culture Section, are attending the congress.

The congress continues.

BRIEFS

TV IN FAR NORTH -- The Franz Josef Land Archipelago now has a Moscow television installation, making it possible for the first time for central television programs to be reliably received there. This installation, one of the largest Arctic stations, is on (Kheys) Island. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0200 GMT 17 May 86 LD]

JAN-APR INDUSTRIAL, AGRICULTURAL PERFORMANCE

PM191353 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed All-Union Socialist Competition Diary: "A Course of Acceleration"]

[Excerpts] Industry

According to figures from the USSR Central Statistical Administration, the total volume of industrial production for the country as a whole increased 6.3 percent during the January-April period in comparison with the same period last year. Labor productivity in industry rose by 5.9 percent during the 4 months. That rise accounted for 94 percent of the increase in output.

Industry fulfilled the output sales plan by 102 percent. All union republics in the country and industrial ministries with the exception of the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry achieved the targets. The January-April plan for the production of most of the major types of output was fulfilled. The 4-month plan was fulfilled in terms of the extraction of coal and gas and the production of the main types of metal products, mineral fertilizers, synthetic resins and plastics, chemical fibers and yarns, metal-cutting machine tools, electric locomotives, trucks and cars, tractors, grain-harvesting combines, commercial timber, paper, cement, fabrics, knitted goods, refrigerators and freezers, and radio receivers.

There was a shortfall of certain types of output, however. Oil extraction was below the planned target, as was the production of synthetic ammonia and soda ash, large electrical machines and AC electric motors (Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry), mainline passenger cars (Ministery of Heavy and Transport Machine Building), and buses (Ministry of the Automotive Industry).

Some economic leaders blame the shortfall on the sluggishness of subcontractors and suppliers and on planning defects. It is true that these shortcomings have still not been eradicated and often considerably impede the full utilization of the available resources. However, as practice shows, they have enough "internal" reasons of their own. Proper attention is not being paid to improving labor organization or modernizing production to a modern technical standard. Violations of order and discipline are tolerated. A creative approach to work and the extensive application of the experience of the best enterprises and conscientious workers -- that is the main thing now.

Agriculture

Spring is advancing rapidly across the fields. In the Nonchernozem zone and Siberia the soil is undergoing presowing cultivation and the seeders are beginning work, while in the North Caucasus the rape has already begun flowering. The orchards of the RSFSR's Central-chernozem zone are covered with a white mantle. Vegetable growers in Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Central Asia are sending their early vegetables to the cities. Spring work has made a solid start on many farms in Tula and Gorkiy Oblasts and the Chuvash ASSR. Competition pacemakers are applying the optimum doses of mineral fertilizers and herbicides to the well cultivated soil along with the seeds. By the beginning of May, the USSR Central Statistical Administration reports, 93 percent of the tractors, 84 percent of the grain-harvesting combines, and 75 percent of the silage- and feed-harvesting combines were ready. Many corn, potato, and cotton harvest mechanisms are in need of repair. Only 66 percent of the reapers were ready. Stockraisers worked quite well between January and April. State purchases of livestock and poultry increased by 8.3 percent across the country as a whole, while milk purchases increased 6.1 percent and egg pruchases 6.3 percent.